TRIBAL WELFARE IN SALEM DISTRICT

Role of Government and Voluntary Welfare Agencies

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PREFACE

Scheduled tribes are people so designated by the President of India. In the Salem district, which is the area designated for this study, there are 94,383 such persons, constituting over 30 per cent of the scheduled tribes population in the State. Most of the people so designated live up in the hills which abound in the district, the most important ones being the Shevoroy, Kolli, Kalrayan, Palamalai and Pachamalai. Their lives, as they emerge from the study based on a 3 per cent random household sample seem to illustrate the Hobbesian characterisation of being "nasty brutish and short."

The family is huddled into a round or square mud walled thatched roof house, with no lighting and a cave like entrance: drinking water is drawn from a small common pond which is also used for washing clothes and bathing the cattle: only 2 primary health centres are in this area and they are several miles away from the homes: most households are farming or agricultural labour households earning less than Rs. 200 per family per month, with debts averaging Rs. 3,000 per family, mostly contracted from moneylenders for consumption purposes: over 75 per cent of the families are illiterate, with about that number being unaware of the existing special programmes for their benefit: most are also unaware of the other scheduled tribes and there is, therefore, little socialisation, though their level of politicization seems high.

There is no voluntary agency activity for the tribal people in the Salem district. Three agencies are at work on limited programmes of running residential schools for tribal children, and dispensaries for tribal people in the Nilgiris and Coimbatore districts. Two others have joined in running a hostel for scheduled tribe pupils in Madurai district. There are stray and sporadic activities by some colleges and Christian missionary societies which are not easy to document. In general, there is no voluntary agency effort in the Salem district.

Against this background, the recommendations made by the study fall into 3 groups. First there are general recommendations which apply to the scheduled tribes programmes in general. They include the reiteration of the recommendation of the earlier study by this Institute for the abolishing of the unsound area restriction whereby a tribal is not a tribal if he is found outside a specified geographical area: to include the 3 tribes in the Tiruttani taluk among the Scheduled Tribes: to concentrate the tribal development programme in the 4 districts where in the main they are to be found - Salem, North Arcot, South Arcot and Dharmapuri: the location of schools in these areas of tribal concentration and the organising of technical training and non-formal education programmes in these areas. In addition, attention is called to some errors in governmental publications concerning the number of tribes in the State, their location, the special position of the Malayali tribe in the South Arcot district, and the confusion about tribal blocks—all of which can be fairly easily rectified.

Second, for the Salem district the programme recommended for the Government includes: (a) allocation of some 30 per cent of funds from the tribal development fund in proportion to the importance of the district: (b) distribution of cultivable land to small farmers with farm demonstrations and provision for wells: (c) starting of banks and co-operatives to help households pay off their debts, receive credit to start poultry, piggery, cattle farms etc., and purchase needed agricultural inputs: (d) prompt training and re-employment of freed bonded labourers: (e) building of roads and proper houses with light and drinking water; and (f) setting up schools and clinics to cater to the education and health needs of the people. For carrying out all these activities as an inter-district integrated tribal development programme, it is recommended that an Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development Agency for the 4 districts be set up with committees in each district and representation and participation of the tribal people for the planning and execution of a carefully established time bound programme, with a self evaluation mechanism.

Third, there is equally—probably more insistently—a need for voluntary agencies' action in Salem and the other three districts, which is practically non-existent today. Voluntary agency action

is needed for (a) this programme to become a people's programme, (b) the motivation for self-improvement and self-renewal to be aroused among the tribal people, (c) work by social workers of the agencies to provide social case work services, act as liaison between the tribal community and Government—on matters relating to farming, credit, availability of inputs, development of subsidiary occupations, health, education and sanitation etc. and generally act as the conscience with regard to the conditions under which the tribal people are living and surviving.

For this, the task ahead is a difficult one because there are no voluntary agencies in any of the four districts working on the development and welfare of tribal people. How does one start on this blank slate? It has been recommended that the Association of Schools of Social Work in cooperation with the Tamil Nadu Board of Continuing Education be entrusted with the task of (a) promoting the development of voluntary agencies in the four districts, using the Madras and Madurai Universities' affiliated colleges, religious, social and cultural organisations and persons heading voluntary organisations which are working for backward communities generally and (b) at the appropriate time bringing together the agencies that establish themselves for tribal welfare into an overall Inter-District Integrated Tribal Welfare Agency with headquarters at Salem, which will be the focal point both for the voluntary agencies and for the Government. The Government, it is recommended might give the agency a block grant of Rs. 15 lakhs for a five year period for distribution to its member voluntary agencies, who will concentrate on the functions listed in the previous paragraph.

This study has been requested by the State government's Department of Social Welfare which has embarked on an enlarged programme of tribal welfare and development in the State and which is anxious to know the role and functions of voluntary agencies in the programme. The study sets out in some detail the various lacuane in the social, economic and cultural life of the tribal people in the Salem district, which the Government's programme must address itself to, with the continuing and sustaining support of the voluntary agencies. For this purpose, the study arrives at certain macro propositions concerning the poverty

profile of the tribal people of the State and of the Salem district, based on micro studies of the detailed demographic, familial educational, occupational, income and debt conditions of the tribal people living in eight taluks of the Salem district. The purpose of this part of the monograph with its somewhat lengthy and weary analysis of the conditions of the people in each of the eight taluks is to ensure that the plans and programmes of both the Governmental tribal agency and those of the voluntary agencies that have been proposed are disaggregated and related to the specific situation to be found in each of the eight locales of the district.

The broader macro picturisation of the socio-economic plight of the scheduled tribes in the State is drawn from an earlier study undertaken by the Institute in 1973 as part of an All India study on educational conditions of the Scheduled Tribes sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi. The present study has also profited from the fact, that Professor S. Ramanathan who directed that earlier macro study has undertaken this study of the Scheduled Tribes in the Salem district. This has made possible not only the essential continuity between the conclusions and recommendations of the two studies, but also suggestions as to the further lines along which the Union and State Governments should act to implement the corpus of proposed actions. As the study points out, some of the recommendations of the earlier study are being acted upon by the Union Government, with the usual delays inherent in Governmental action. It is now for both Governments to review the recommendations made in this study and take early action on both the general suggestions and specific programmes for the four districts in which the tribals are concentrated in the State.

The Institute is grateful to the tribal leaders and people who readily provided the information on which the study is based and also for the time spent by them with the Institute staff on conferences and meetings at which the major conclusions were checked. Seven memoranda written by the Salem tribal people, Paithur tribal people, Attur tribals, Salem and Kolli Hills tribal societies for these meetings contain some graphic descriptions of their lives

and detailed suggestions for righting the wrongs that the people are suffering from. The main impression conveyed by these written representations is that the tribal people are aware of their conditions of neglect, exploitation and discrimination vis-a-vis the rest of the population and that there is not much time left to society to correct these injustices. The main memorandum opens with the ominous words, "Our country attained freedom 30 years ago but this freedom has not touched us. We are living like animals. We carry our produce to the market and bring back what the households need on our backs, like the beast of burden, the camel." They describe vividly their exploitation by moneylenders who use "rowdies" to extort their produce, falsify the bonds and debt documents and expropriate their lands. In all the seven memoranda, the building of roads, the provision of health facilities, what they call cheap "fire proof" houses and banks, co-operatives and fair price shops and marketing facilities which can meet their agricultural and consumption needs are given the highest priority. Their politicisation is remarkable. One memo quotes the Revenue Board Order, its date, and the Survey No. of the 1,100 acres of land granted to them, which has been appropriated by the rich outside leaders. Another memo refers to the Prime Minister's 20 point programme and asks that it be implemented. Still another memo asks why the mid-day meal, free books, and uniforms for school children provided in one area are not given to schools in the other areas (incidentally the explanation for drop-outs, push-outs and left-outs is clearly given in this memo). A last point. One memorandum states: "The lands given to the tribals have been expropriated by the non-tribals......In order to reappropriate these lands to us tribals and remove the interlopers, Union Government officers with the help of the Central Reserve Police are needed. The local revenue authorities will not restore to us our lands. The reason for our scepticism is that despite the many plans to this effect formulated for many years, the many lakhs of Rupees allocated for carrying them out, the local officers have done nothing. So, we want the Delhi authorities to take over and help us." This is not only ominous, it is tragic. The seven memoranda are being forwarded to the Government—the Chief Minister and in his absence the Governor, along with a copy of this study for information and action.

The Institute also offers its thanks to the office of the Census, the Department of Social Welfare, the District Collector and his officers at Salem and the Taluk authorities for all the help and documentation made available to the Institute. Professor S. Ramanathan and his team profited from this abundance of help and support received and express their particular thanks to all concerned. This study, like the earlier one, is the result of the pains-taking labour of Prof. Ramanathan and the Institute staff, who are responsible for the analysis, judgement and conclusions in the study, which the Institute supports. I commend the study to the attention of the Union and State Governments, to the Association of Schools of Social Work, to our colleges, and to all men and women of good will who wish to do their share in fighting the inhuman conditions under which our tribal people live.

Madras
16th April, 1977

Malcolm S Adiseshiah

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

SECTION A

1. Definition/Description of Scheduled Tribes

1.1. There has not been a standard or sociological definition of Scheduled Tribes in any literature. There is, however, a rather vague working description of Scheduled Tribes in Article 342 (1) of the Constitution of India. Scheduled Tribes mean "tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribes or tribal communities" as are declared to be Scheduled Tribes by the President of India by public notification under Article 342(1) of the Constitution. This description was adopted by the Census of India for the enumeration in 1961 and 1971. Article 342 (2) empowers the Parliament to modify the list of Scheduled Tribes by inclusion or exclusion. Article 244 empowers the President to declare any area as 'Scheduled Area.'

2. Constitutional Safeguards and Privileges

2.1. There are several constitutional provisions to safeguard the interests of the Scheduled Tribes and to provide certain special privileges and concessions for them. These constitutional provisions, existing right from the time the Constitution was adopted in 1950, have come to be described as 'protective discrimination' or 'positive discrimination' in favour of the Scheduled Tribes.

2.2. Article 46 of the Constitution enjoins on the State "to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation." Articles 330 and 332 provide for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes, proportionate to their population, in the House of the People in Parliament and in the Legislative Assemblies of the States

respectively. Article 334 restricted such reservation of seats for a period of ten years from the commencement of the Constitution, i.e. January 26, 1950. But, this period has so far been extended twice, each time for a period of ten years, through Constitutional Amendments, and the present extension of period is till January 1980. Articles 330 and 332 do not preclude members of the Scheduled Tribes from contesting seats in the general constituencies. Article 335, free from any time limitation, specifically provides for the consideration of the claims of Scheduled Tribes for appointment to services in the Union and State Governments, and this has been facilitated through the proviso to Clause (3) and Clause (4) of Article 320 relating to Public Service Commissions. A quota of seven percent (increased from 5%) of the vacancies to be filled through the Union Public Service Commission or by competitive examinations and a similar percentage of the vacancies to be filled in any other manner are reserved for the candidates from Scheduled Tribes. Further, concessions such as relaxation in age limit, relaxation in the standard of suitability and of qualifications and selection subject to fulfilling the minimum standard of efficiency have been provided for Scheduled Tribes candidates. The special quota for appointment does not bar Scheduled Tribes candidates from competing with candidates from other communities for the vacancies to be filled from the general pool. Article 275(1) provides for financial assistance from the Centre to the States to implement the Constitutional provisions to promote the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, while Article 339(2) empowers the executive power of the Union to the giving of directions to the States relating to the welfare schemes for Scheduled Tribes. Article 338 provides for the appointment of a Special Officer for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by the President, while Article 340 provides for the appointment of a Commission by the President to investigate the conditions of the socially and educationally backward classes and the difficulties experienced by them. The President is to cause the reports of the Special Officer and the recommendations of the Commission to be laid before each House of Parliament.

2.3. The inherent conflict between Article 29(2) reading "No citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on grounds only of race, religion, caste, language or any of

them" and Article 46 reading "The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation" was removed, after the judgement of the Supreme Court in State of Madras vs. Smt. Champakam Dorairajan, by the inclusion of Clause (4) to Article 15 through the Constitution (First Amendment) Act, 1951, reading "Nothing in this article or in clause (2) of article 29 shall prevent the State from making any special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes."

3. Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu

3.1. A list of 42 names of Scheduled Tribes for Tamil Nadu w ich the specific areas in which each of them is to be treated as Scheduled Tribe, as in the Presidential Order, 1956, is given in Appendix 1. This list formed the basis of Census enumeration in 1961 and 1971. Only 28 of the 42 Scheduled Tribes for a total population of 251,991 (129,185 males and 122,806 females) and 33 of the 42 Scheduled Tribes for a total population of 311,515 (159,706 males and 151,809 females) were enumerated in the Census of 1961 and 1971 respectively. The Tribes enumerated in 1961 and 1971 may be seen in Appendix 2. Some of the names in the list of Scheduled Tribes are synonyms of major tribes; some other names in the list are also in the list of names of Scheduled Castes; and some other tribes living on the border areas move into Kerala and come back with the result that those tribes disappear and reappear from Census to Census.[1] Further, 13,442 persons, returned under the generic name of Scheduled Tribes in 1961 and 9,016 in 1971 were treated as 'Unclassified' for the purpose of tribe-wise distribution; but, they were included in the population of Scheduled Tribes. The population of Scheduled Tribes constituted 0·75% and 0·76% of the Tamil Nadu population in 1961 and 1971 respectively.

3.2. Only 2 of the 42 Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu do not have any 'area restriction', and, in other words, members of

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1. Censns of India, 1961, Vol. IX (Madras), Part V-A(i), p. 19.

these two Tribes (Kadar and Irular) are to be treated as Scheduled Tribes in any part of the State. Those belonging to the other Scheduled Tribes, who, on the day of Census enumeration, happened to be outside the area specified for them as in the Presidential Order, 1956, (Appendix 1), had to be left out of the Scheduled Tribes population. To illustrate, "Malayali is a Scheduled Tribe only in the districts of North Arcot, Salem and Tiruchirapalli. Though about 7,000 Malayalis live in the South Arcot district in as primitive conditions as the Malayalis in the other three districts, the Malayalis enumerated in South Arcot district have not been classified as Scheduled Tribes. A Malayali Tribal of Salem district ceases to be a member of the Scheduled Tribe if, on the day of enumeration, he was in Madras. .... on the advice of the Registrar General, we have restricted the number to those censused in the areas specified for each Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe."[2] That a person is to be considered as belonging to a Scheduled Tribe while in a specified area and not considered so while in another taluk or district within the same State is incongruous. This 'area restriction' has not only distorted the total population of the Scheduled Tribes but also their tribe-wise population. Further, it cannot but have a very restraining influence on the mobility of the members of Scheduled Tribes for fear of losing the special privileges and concessions.

3.3. It is not clear on what basis or criterion the two Tribes of Kadar and Irular came to be scheduled throughout the State. The population of the Kadar Tribe was only 293, according to the Census of 1961, distributed in three districts (287 in Coimbatore, 2 in Salem and 4 in Tirunelveli district). The population of the Irular Tribe was 79,835 in 1961, distributed in all the districts of the State excepting Ramanathapuram, and this Tribe was the second numerically largest Tribe, next only to the Malayali Tribe with its population of 1,29,952 which was scheduled only to the three districts of North Arcot, Salem and Tiruchirapalli.

3.4. The incongruity of the 'area restriction' was specifically emphasised in the Study of "Educational Problems of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Tamil Nadu, 1973" (Volumes I & II of Part II), conducted by this Institute as part of a National Study.

2. Census of India, 1961, Vol. IX (Madras), Part V-A(i), p. 19.

3.5. A bill to abolish the 'area restriction' was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on September 2, 1976 and September 3, 1976 respectively. This bill has also provision to empower the census authority to re-estimate the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the Election Commission to re-allocate the reserved constituencies. This Act, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976, has not yet come into force, as may be seen in Appendix 3.

3.6. Those belonging to the Tribes of Yerukala, Yenadi and Sugali (Lambadi) in Tiruttani taluk of North Arcot district were not enumerated as Scheduled Tribes in the Census of 1961 and 1971. These three Tribes were treated as Scheduled Tribes throughout Andhra Pradesh except the Telangana district. But, from 1–4–1960 when Tiruttani taluk was transferred from Andhra Pradesh to Tamil Nadu according to the Andhra Pradesh-Madras Alteration of Boundaries Act, 1960, these three Tribes ceased to be Scheduled Tribes since the list of Scheduled Tribes for Tamil Nadu did not contain the names of these three tribes and also since there was no enabling provision to treat these tribes as Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu.

3.7. The Tribe-wise distribution of Scheduled Tribes based on the Census of 1971 is not yet published. But, Tribe-wise tabulation based on the 1961 Census reveals that there were 11 Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu (out of the 42 Tribes) the population of each of which was a single digit number, ranging between 1 and 8, for a total population of a mere 43, and there were two other Tribes having a population of 26 and 58. In other words, 13 Tribes accounted for a total population of only 127, as may be seen in Appendix 4. According to the Census of 1961, 22 out of the 28 Scheduled Tribes enumerated accounted for a total population of only 8,719, while 6 Tribes had a total population of 2,29,830 constituting 91·21% of the total Scheduled Tribes population in Tamil Nadu, as shown over leaf:

S. No.	Name of Tribe	Number of persons	As % of the State Tribal Population	
1.	Malayali	1,29,952	51·57	......83·25
2.	Irular	79,835	31·68	
3.	Kattunayakan	6,459	2·56	
4.	Sholaga	6,136	2·44	
5.	Paniyan	4,779	1·90	
6.	Pulayan	2,669	1·06	
	Total	2,29,830	91·21	
	22 Tribes (8,719) & Unclassified (13,442)	22,161	8·79	
	Total population	2,51,991	100·00	

It is to be specifically pointed out that each of the six Tribes listed above has more than 1% of the total Scheduled Tribe population in the State, and two Tribes together account for as high as 83·25 percent of the total Tribal population.

3.8. It has been stated in the Census Report of 1961 that one of the reasons for not enumerating all the 42 Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu is that some of the names in the list of Scheduled Tribes are synonyms of major tribes (see para 3.1). It would seem that the names of Palleyars, Palleyan and Palliyan denote one and the same Tribe, and, similarly, Malai-Arayan and Malayarayar, Malasar and Mahamalasar, and Pulayan and Hill Pulayan. In the case of the last pair the distinction seems to refer to those living in the plains and on the hills. It may also be pointed out that the Palleyan Tribe was not enumerated either in 1961 or in 1971. It is, therefore, clear that here is the need to eliminate the synonymous names among the Scheduled Tribes.

3.9. There is a case for the modification of the list of Scheduled Tribes for Tamil Nadu based on the following:

1. The three Tribes of Yerukala, Yenadi and Sugali in Tiruttani taluk are to be included in the list, if the population of these three Tribes is found to be substantial.
2. The synonymous names for some of the Tribes are to be eliminated.
3. The seven Tribes of Eravallan, Hill Pulaya, Malayan, Malayarayar, Ulladan, Palleyan and Vishavan, which were not enumerated in the Census of both 1961 and 1971, may be deleted from the list.
4. The very minor Tribes the population of each of which is a single digit number may also be deleted from the list of Scheduled Tribes for Tamil Nadu.

3.10. There does not seem to be any Scheduled Tribe in Tamil Nadu, including the numerically small Toda Tribe that has aroused great interest among the anthropologists, which can be called aboriginal in the strict sense. It is known that almost all the Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu speak either Tamil or Telugu or a queer combination of the two. The members of Scheduled Tribes now on the hill areas must have moved from the plains to the hills in the past. It is quite possible that some of those Nayakans (not a Scheduled Tribe) who moved into the hill areas came to be called Kattu-Nayakans (forest Nayakans) and came to be considered as a Scheduled Tribe. Similarly, there are many 'kinds' of Reddis who generally speak the Telugu language. But, only Konda-Reddi is listed as a Scheduled Tribe. If during the Census enumeration a Kattu-Nayakan or a Konda-Reddi failed to give the first part of the Tribal name he will not be enumerated as belonging to Scheduled Tribe. It is significant to point out in this context that no Konda-Reddi was enumerated in Salem district in 1961; but, in 1971, 507 Konda-Reddis have been enumerated in Salem District (128 in Salem taluk, 378 in Sankari taluk and 1 in Rasipuram taluk). It is known that the Konda-Reddi families in Salem and Sankari taluks have been living there for many generations. Similarly, while no Kondakappu was enumerated

in Salem district in 1961, 54 Kondakappus have been enumerated in Sankari taluk of Salem district in 1971. If the Census enumerators are not well-briefed many belonging to Scheduled Tribes are likely to be left out. Further, it is known that many pockets or small hamlets on the hills in which Scheduled Tribes live are not connected by roads and that the path connecting some of these pockets or hamlets runs through thick forest areas. This practical difficulty can also lead to some of these pockets or hamlets being left out in the Census enumeration.

Scheduled Tribes in Salem District

4.1. The population of the Scheduled Tribes in Salem district (94,383) constituted 30·30 percent of the total Scheduled Tribes population in Tamil Nadu (3,11,515) in 1971, while the area of Salem district accounts for only 6·65 percent of the total area of the State. Salem district ranks first in Scheduled Tribes population in the State, as may be seen in Appendix 5. The explanation for such a large number of members of Scheduled Tribes to be found in Salem district is possibly because of the many hills in that district. Shevroy hills (Yercaud), practically the entire portion of the Kolli hills, a good portion of the Kalrayan hills, a part of Palamalai and Pachamalai and several other smaller hills are in Salem district. According to some, the original name 'Sailam' (meaning hill) has become Salem in course of time. The population of Scheduled Tribes living on the various hills in Salem district is shown in the following table :

S. No.	Name of Hills	Number of S.T. persons	Name of taluk
1.	Chinnakalrayan Hills	7,304	Attur
2.	Periakalrayan Hills	6,402	Attur
3.	Pachamalai	2,897	Attur
4.	Neyyamalai Akkaraipatti	797	Attur
5.	Manmalai	600	Attur
6.	Goodamalai	510	Attur
7.	Palamalai	2,175	Mettur
8(a)	Kolli Hills	14,654	Namakkal
8(b)	Kolli Hills	9,078	Rasipuram
9.	Gedamalai	95	Rasipuram
10.	Jarugumalai	523	Salem
11.	Aranuthumalai	488	Salem
12.	Sirumalai	224	Salem
13.	Jambuthumalai	198	Salem
14.	Sandumalai	33	Salem
15.	Shevroy Hills	16,823	Yercaud (Sub-taluk)
	Total	62,801	

It is found that 66·54 percent of the Scheduled Tribes population in Salem district lives on the hills and the remaining 33·46 percent in the plains. The plains include both rural and urban areas.

4.2. The proportion of Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes, the latter being the total population excluding the Scheduled Tribes population, in the rural and urban areas of Salem district and Tamil Nadu as of 1971 is as follows:

	Salem District			Tamil Nadu		
	S.T.	Non-S.T.	Total	S.T.	Non-S.T.	Total
Rural	4·28	95·72	100·00	1·02	98·98	100·00
Urban	0·04	99·96	100·00	0·14	99·86	100·00
Total	3·15	96·85	100·00	0·76	99·24	100·00

It is seen that the proportion of Scheduled Tribes population to Non-Scheduled Tribe population in the rural areas is only 1·02 for Tamil Nadu, while it is 4·28 in the case of Salem district. Further, the proportion of Scheduled Tribes population to Non-Scheduled Tribe population in the State is only 0·76, while it is 3·15 in Salem district.

The percentage distribution of the population of Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes in the rural and urban areas in Salem district and Tamil Nadu is given below:

	Salem District			Tamil Nadu		
	S.T.	Non-S.T.	Total	S.T.	Non-S.T	Total
Rural	99·66	72·57	73·42	94·50	69·56	69·74
Urban	0·34	27·43	26·58	5·50	30·44	30·26
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Only 0·34 percent of the Scheduled Tribes populationin Salem district lives in the urban areas as compared to the 5·50 percent in the State. The Scheduled Tribes population in the rural areas of Salem district is as high as 99·66 percent, while in the case of Non-Scheduled Tribe it is only 72·57 percent. The same pattern is seen in the State picture also. District-wise population of the Scheduled Tribes in the urban and rural areas of Tamil Nadu in 1961 and 1971, with percentages, may be seen in Appendix 6.

The sex ratio among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes in the rural and urban areas in Salem district and Tamil Nadu as of 1971 is shown in the following table.

	Salem District			Tamil Nadu		
	S.T.	Non-S.T.	Total	S.T.	Non-S.T.	Total
Rural	971	968	967	950	991	991
Urban	917	954	953	960	951	951
Total	971	963	963	951	978	978

The very low sex ratio among Scheduled Tribes in the urban areas of Salem district is probably due to the fact that their urban population is only 322 as compared to their rural population of 94,061. The sex ratio among Non-Scheduled Tribe in the rural areas both in Salem district and in Tamil Nadu is higher than that in the urban areas. The sex ratio among Non-Scheduled Tribes in the urban areas of Tamil Nadu is somewhat higher than that in the rural areas.

5. Tribe-wise Population in Salem District

5.1. The tribe-wise distribution of Scheduled Tribes population in Salem district as of 1971 is shown below:

S.No.	Name of Tribe	No. of Persons	
1.	Malayali	92,394	
2.	Kuruman	642	Not enumerated in 1961
3.	Konda-Reddi	507	Not enumerated in 1961
4.	Irular	448	
5.	Adiyan	78	
6.	Kondakapu	54	Not enumerated in 1961
7.	Paniyan	18	Not enumerated in 1961
8.	Koraga	11	
9.	Palliyan	9	Not enumerated in 1961
10.	Sholaga	8	
11.	Pulayan	1	Not enumerated in 1961
		94,170	
	'Unclassified'	213	
	Total	94,383	

It is seen that the population of three Tribes is a single digit number, while that of four other Tribes is a double digit number ranging between 11 and 78. The Malayali Tribe constitutes 97·89 percent of the Scheduled Tribes population in Salem district. It may be noted that the Malayalis account for 51·20 percent of the total Scheduled Tribes population in the State as of 1971, and the Malayali population in Salem district constitutes 57·95 percent of the total Malayali population of 1,59,426 in the State.

5.2. It may be noted that six of the 11 Tribes enumerated in 1971 were not enumerated in 1961. The families belonging to the Konda Reddi Tribe which were not enumerated in 1961 are known to be living in Salem and Sankari taluks of Salem district for many generations, as has been pointed out earlier in para 3.10. It may also be mentioned that 158 Kattunayakans were enumeratd in 1961 in the composite Salem district (Salem and Dharmapuri districts), out of which 45 were enumerated in Omalur taluk; but, in 1971 not a single Kattunayakan was enumerated in Salem district.

6. Literacy and Education

6.1. A person is considered to be a literate if he is able to read and write (Census of India). The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu was 5·91 percent against 31·60 percent among Non-Scheduled Tribes in 1961[3], while it is found to be 9·02 percent and 39·69 percent among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe respectively in 1971. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes, sex-wise, in the rural and urban areas of Tamil Nadu is shown in the following table:

3. Madras Institute of Development Studies, Madras, Educationat Problems of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Tamil Nadu, Part II, Vol. 1, p. 9.

Scheduled Tribes

	Rural		Urban	
Male population	1,50,965	12·76%	8,741	23·38%
Male literates	19,263		2,044	
Female population	1,43,414	4·02%	8,395	12·28%
Female literates	5,769		1,031	
	State:	9·02%		

Non-Scheduled Tribes

	Rural		Urban	
Male population	1,42,87,762	45·49%	63,80,553	66·82%
Male literates	64,98,955		42,63,521	
Female population	1,41,52,193	19·13%	60,67,145	45·46%
Female literates	27,07,600		27,58,210	
	State:	39·69%		

It is seen that (1) the percentage of literacy has gone up from 5·91 percent to 9·02 percent and from 31·60 percent to 39·69 percent among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes respectively during the decade 1961 to 1971, (2) the percentage of literacy in the rural areas is much lower than that in the urban areas both among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes and (3) the very low percentage of literacy among the rural females has considerably brought down the State literacy percentage both among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes.

6.2. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes, sex-wise, in the rural and urban areas of Salem district, as of 1971, is given in the following table:

Scheduled Tribes

	Rural		Urban	
Male population	47,711	15·16%	168	56·54%
Male literates	7,234		95	
Female population	48,350	4·79%	154	26·62%
Female literates	2,219		41	
	District:	10·16%		

Non-Scheduled Tribes

	Rural		Urban	
Male population	10,69,459	37·68%	4,06,991	59·03%
Male literates	4,02,933		2,40,249	
Female population	10,33,714	14·67%	3,88,069	37·23%
Female literates	1,51,740		1,44,491	
	District:	32·41%		

It is seen that (1) the very low percentage of literacy among females in the rural areas among Scheduled Tribes has brought down the percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Salem district as a whole, (2) the percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes males in the urban areas is very nearly the same as that among Non-Scheduled Tribes males in the urban areas (56·54% and 59·03%) and (3) the percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes males in the rural areas is substantially lower than the percentage of literacy among Non-Scheduled Tribes males in the rural areas (15·16% and 37·68%). The percentage of literacy both among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribes in Salem district has increased from 4·24 percent to 10·16 percent and from 20·31 percent to 32·41 percent respectively during the decade 1961 to 1971.

6.3. It is observed that while Scheduled Tribes literates in Salem district as a percentage of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu as a whole increased from 28·60 percent in 1961 to 34·12 percent in 1971, the corresponding percentage in the case of Non-Scheduled Tribe decreased from 7·12 percent in 1961 to 5·79 percent in 1971. A possible explanation for this may be the bifurcation of Salem district into Salem and Dharmapuri districts in 1964. It is also observed that the percentages of literacy in the rural and urban areas and among males and females of Scheduled Tribes in Salem district are higher than those in the State as a whole, while in the case of Non-Scheduled Tribe the Salem district percentages are lower than those of the State as a whole. The number of Scheduled Tribes literates, district-wise, and as percentage of their district population and also as percentage of Scheduled Tribes literates in the State as of 1971 and also for the Non-Scheduled Tribe may be seen in Appendices 7 (a) and (7 (b). It may be noted that the number of Scheduled Tribes literates in Salem district constitute 34·12 percent of Scheduled Tribes literates in the State as a whole, while the number of Non-Scheduled Tribe literates in Salem district account for only 5·79 percent of the Non-Scheduled Tribe literates in the State. It is to be noted in this context, that while the Scheduled Tribes population in Salem district-constitutes 30·3 percent of the total tribal population of the State, the Non-Scheduled Tribe population in Salem district accounts for only 7·1 percent.

6.4. The Middle School and High School stages of education in Tamil Nadu consist of three years each, from Standard VI-VIII and Standard IX-XI respectively. Three successive academic years, 1970–71 to 1972–73 were taken to compute the rates of drop-outs and repetitions for Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe pupils. As may be seen in Appendix 8 (a), the drop-out and repetition for Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe pupils in the Middle School stage was 70·3 percent and 32·9 percent respectively, while in the case of the High School stage the corresponding percentages were 67·3 percent and 33·2 percent, as may beseen in Appendix 8 (b). It is clear that suitable measures must be taken to substantially reduce the rate of drop-out among Scheduled Tribes pupils, particularly at the Middle School and High School stages of education.

6.5 Based on the number of pupils, Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe, at the different stages of education in Tamil Nadu during 1971, it was found that the Co-efficient of Equality for Scheduled Tribes pupils was 38·42, 23·43, 26·44 and 15·91 in the Primary School stage, Middle School stage, High School stage and in Colleges/Universities respectively[4].

7. Occupation

7.1 "Out of a total tribal population of 2·52 lakhs, 1·09 lakhs (43·23%) are non-workers. Out of a total of 1·43 lakhs of workers, 58·22 percent are cultivators, 20·65 percent are agricultural labourers and 7·35 percent are engaged in mining, forestry, fishing, plantation, etc.".[5] These figures taken from the Census Report of 1961, Vol. IX (Madras), Part V-A(i) clearly shows that a very high percentage among Scheduled Tribes workers are engaged in unskilled occupations.

7.2 Classifying occupational activities into four main categories of (1) Professionals (Doctors, Engineers, Teachers, etc.), (2) Administrators (Executives, Clerks, etc.), (3) Skilled Workers and (4) Unskilled Workers, it was found tht among Scheduled Tribes workers in Tamil Nadu as of 1961, 97·22 percent were unskilled workers, 1·65 percent skilled workers, 0·90 percent Administrators/Executives, etc. and 0·23 percent Professionals, as may be seen in Appendix 9. It may also be noted that the Co-efficient of Equality for Scheduled Tribes was 153·37 for unskilled workers, 12·24 percent for skilled workers, 15·10 for Administrators/Executives and 12·38 for Professionals. Special programmes for general education, atleast upto the High School stage of education, and technical training for Scheduled Tribes pupils are necessary. Special incentives to the parents of Scheduled Tribes pupils to send their wards to the educational institutions may also be necessary.

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4. Madras Institute of Development Studies Madras, Study of Educational Problems of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu–Profile Study–1972, pp. 38–41.

5. Government of India, Planning Commission, Report of the Study-Team on Tribal Development Programmes, Madras, 1967, p. 3.

SECTION B

GOVERNMENT POLICY

1. General

1.1. It was realised as early as 1934 by the then Central Government that some minority communities of the society were in a state of backwardness, stagnation and isolation. One of the ways by which their general development was sought to be facilitated was by providing for their representatives seats, in the then Central and Provincial Legislative Assemblies through the system of separate electorates for the minority communities in the Government of India Act, 1935.

1.2. The various special provisions in the Constitution of India to promote the welfare of the members of Scheduled Tribes have been explained in the earlier Section of this Chapter. The most important of them all is Article 46 reading "The state shall promote with special care the educational and economic interest of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation." Several schemes for the educational, ecomic and social upliftment of the members of Scheduled Tribes have been undertaken by the Central and State Governments for almost three decades now. A few voluntary organisations also have been trying to improve the lot of some of the Scheduled Tribes in a very limited way.

2. Educational

2.1. A scheme started by the Union Government in 1945 to grant post-matric scholarships to the pupils of Scheduled Castes was extended to the pupils of Scheduled Tribes also in 1948 to enable them to go in for higher education. This scholarship covers maintenance allowance, compulsory non-refundable fees, if any, approved study tours and typing/printing of thesis. The maintenance allowance varies as between day scholars

and hostel residents, and also as betwen the courses of education at different levels. This Government of India scheme is administered by the State Government. The Union Government incurred an expenditure of Rs. 5·52 crores, Rs. 8·85 crores and Rs. 14.39 crores during the First, Second and Third Five-Year Plan periods respectively.

2.2. All the eligible Scheduled Tribes pupils were granted scholarships irrespective of the income of their parents/guardians till 1974–75; but, from 1975–76 only those Scheduled Tribes pupils the monthly income of whose parents/guardians does not exceed Rs. 500/- are eligible for the full maintenance allowance. The Union Government issued instructions in 1969–70 that the expenditure upto the level of expenditure during 1968–69 on post-matric scholarship should be borne by the State Government and the expenditure above the level of 1968–69 would be met by the Union Government. The total number of Scheduled Tribes pupils who received the Government of India post-matric scholarship in Tamil Nadu during 1975–76 was only 117, as may be seen in Appendix 10.

2.3. The Union Government also instituted a scheme in 1954 to award Overseas Scholarship and Passage Grants for Scheduled Tribes pupils for higher studies abroad.

2.4. One of the Pre-examination Training Centres in the country, financed by the Union Government and administered by the State Government, for coaching candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the All-India competitive examinations is located in Madras.

2.5. Education upto the first degree level is free to all pupils in Tamil Nadu. To encourage education among Scheduled Tribes the Tamil Nadu Government awards grants and scholarships, residential and non-residential, and also provides certain facilities. Grants are given to pupils in Standards I to III. Non-residential scholarship includes the amount of special fees and examination fees, if any, payable by the pupils, and an allowance to buy books, while the residential scholarship, awarded to pupils in Standard VI and above, includes the boarding and lodging charges and the amount of the non-resident scholarship.

2.6. All the eligible Scheduled Tribes pupils the annual income of whose parents/guardians does not exceed Rs. 3,000/- are eligible for the pre-matric scholarship of the State Government. The number of Scheduled Tribes pupils, district-wise, who were awarded the pre-matric scholarship of the Tamil Nadu Government during 1975–76 may be seen in Appendix 11. A total of 1,622 scholarships to Scheduled Tribes pupils were awarded and 542 of them were renewal cases. It is to be specifically noted that 'State Government allotment is only for six districts.' It is not known why the award of pre-matric scholarship was restricted to Scheduled Tribes pupils in only six districts. It may be pointed out in this context that North Arcot and Chingleput districts ranking Second and Fourth respectively in Scheduled Tribes population according to the Census of 1971 are not included among the six districts, while Tiruchirapalli and Tirunelveli, ranking Seventh and Eleventh respectively in the matter of Scheduled Tribes population are included (see Appendix 5).

2.7. There are 76 Residential and Non-Residential Schools for Scheduled Tribes pupils in the State, as of 1975. The district-wise distribution of these institutions at the different levels of education may be seen in Appendix 12. The relative district population of Scheduled Tribes does not seem to have been taken into consideration while opening these institutions in the various districts. North Arcot district, as pointed out earlier, ranks Second in Scheduled Tribes population according to the Census of 1971, and it is seen that there are only 2 Elementary Residential Schools in that district. It may also be noted in Appendix 7 (a) that North Arcot district has a very low literacy percentage of 4·96 in relation to their population in that district. It is also found that there are 22, 18 and 10 Residential Schools in Nilgiris, Coimbatore and Tiruchirapalli districts which rank only as the Sixth, Fifth and Seventh respectively according to the Census of 1971, while there are no institutions in Dharmapuri and Chingleput districts which rank Third and Fourth on the basis of Scheduled Tribes population (see Appendix 5).

2.8. There are 15 Hostels for Scheduled Tribes pupils in the State, as of 1975. Their district-wise distribution may be seen in Appendix 13. Hostels for Scheduled Tribes pupils in the various

districts also have not been located according to Scheduled Tribes population in the districts. It is stated that "As a step towards integration and removal of untouchability and to create a chance for the Scheduled Tribes to mingle with other students from other communities", 30 percent and 10 percent of the seats available in the Hostels for Scheduled Tribes pupils are allotted to pupil from Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes respectively[6]. This, incidentally, reduces the number of seats available for Scheduled Tribes pupils, and the number of hostels for them is a mere 15 in the State.

2.9. The State Government recently instituted a scheme of giving 'Merit Grant' to those pupils from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who pass the S. S. L. C. examination with 70 percent or more marks and who are to pursue higher studies. Such pupils are to be given an ad hoc merit grant of Rs. 300/- each to meet initial expenditure, and this grant is to be paid in addition to the other facilities and concessions.

2.10. Several other schemes also like coaching a certain number of Scheduled Tribes candidates for appearing for the Chartered Accountants Examination, a loan of Rs. 2,000/- for Scheduled Tribes pupils who wish to go in for professional courses like medicine, engineering, etc., for giving training in agriculture and allied subjects for Scheduled Tribes candidates. There is also a scheme to open 15 special coaching centres in the State for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates appearing for Group IV service examinations of the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission.

3. Economic and Social

3.1. The State and Union Governments, the latter either through Centrally Sponsored Schemes or through Grant-in-Aid to the State Government, have undertaken several schemes for the upliftment of the members of Scheduled Tribes in the State right from the First Five-Year Plan Period (1951–56). The amount spent by both the Union and Tamil Nadu Governments from the

6. Government of Tamil Nadu, Directorate of Harijan Welfare, Performance Budget, 1974–75, p. 16.

First Five-Year Plan Period to the end of the Fourth Five-Year Plan Period is shown below:

			Rupees in lakhs
(a)	First Five-Year Plan Period (1951–56)		3·93
(b)	Second Five-Year Plan Period (1956–61)		
	Education	17·00	
	Economic	9·06	
	Health, Housing, etc.	18·95	45·01
(c)	Third Five-Year Plan Period (1961–66)		
	Education	13·02	
	Economic	17·03	
	Health, Housing, etc.	19·30	49·35
(d)	Annual Plan (1966–67)		
	Education	2·48	
	Economic	17·46	
	Health, Housing, etc.	3·43	23·37
(e)	Annual Plan (1967–68)		
	Education	3·32	
	Economic	2·40	
	Health, Housing, etc.	3·46	9·18
(f)	Annual Plan (1968–69)		
	Education	2·89	
	Economic	1·70	
	Health, Housing, etc.	2·91	7·50
(g)	Fourth Five-Year Plan Period (1969–74)		
	Education	35·12	
	Economic	19·76	
	Health, Housing, etc.	96·48	151·36
		Total	289·70

Source: Government of Tamil Nadu, Report of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, 1976, pp. 28 to 30.

The above expenditure includes the amounts spent on the two Tribal Development Blocks in Kolli Hills and Yercaud of Salem district as special programmes for tribal welfare in Tamil Nadu. The Kolli Hills and Yercaud Blocks were started on 1-4-1963 and 1-4-1966 respectively. From a very crude estimate, taking the total tribal population of 3,11,515 in Tamil Nadu as in 1971 applicable to the whole period from 1951 to 1974, it is seen that a sum of Rs. 4/- was spent for a tribal per year. Some benefits may have also accrued to the tribal people from the developmental activities in the general sector. An assessment of the results of the various programmes to promote the welfare of the tribal people in the State is to be found in the comment, "With all these expenditures and the efforts of voluntary organisations in the field, it is found that the problem still eludes effective solution." [7] In another context in the same Report (pp. 167–168) it is stated, "While programmes like tribal schools, scholarships, etc. have been helpful to the beneficiaries, there have been programmes like land colonisation, which have not been able to achieve the desired results. The reasons for this are many. The tribals themselves, for examples, were not enthusiastic about certain programmes mainly because of their ignorance and traditional prejudices. Another reason has been lack of trained and right type of personnel to implement these programmes at the field level. A third reason would be that there has been no systematic monitoring of information on the implementation of these programmes at the field level and consequently there has been no system of feed back of this information from the field level to the policy making level. Yet another reason could be lack of administrative and inter-departmental coordination in drawing up an Integrated Programme and implementing it in a coordinated fashion."

3.2. The Tribal Development Blocks in Kolli Hills and Yercaud are the only two such Blocks in Tamil Nadu. "No Socio-economic survey was conducted in the Kolli Hills before

7. Government of Tamil Nadu (The Expert Cell, Directorate of Harijan Welfare), Madras, A Sub-Plan for Tribal Development in Tamil Nadu, August 1974, p. 12.

converting the block into a T. D. Block. Some sort of a rough survey was however made in the Yercaud Block at the time of the preparation of the Master Plan for the Block."[8] Regarding the Tribal Development Blocks in Kolli Hills and Yercaud, "These aimed at bringing about the rapid improvement in the economic and social standards of the tribal people by selecting undeveloped and compact areas for multifaceted development. The area of these tribal development blocks is confined to that of the Panchayat Development Block."[9] The amounts spent under the various heads in the two Tribal Development Blocks are given below:

Kolli Hills Block 1964-'65 to 1974-'75	(In Rupees)	**Yercaud Block 1966-'67 to 1974-'75**	(In Rupees)
Agriculture	3,79,893	Agriculture	2,88,692
Animal Husbandry	2,21,328	Animal Husbandry	2,22,900
Social Education	27,289	Social Education	23,170
Women & Child Welfare	14,197	Women & Child Welfare	12,646
Rural Arts & Crafts	40,445	Rural Industries	73,241
Rural Water Supply	4,41,087	Mid-day Meals	58,968
School Buildings	4,47,123		
Communication	16,36,082		
Total	32,07,444	Total	6,79,617

Source: 1. Kolli Hills Tribal Development Block, Statement of Particulars, 27-8-1974.

2. Yercaud Tribal Development Block, Scheme-wise Allotment and Expenditure, 1974–75.

8. Government of India, Planning Commission, Report of the Study Team on Tribal Development Programmes, Madras, 1967, p. 43.

9. Government of Tamil Nadu, Directorate of Harijan Welfare, A Sub-Plan for Tribal Development in Tamil Nadu, Madras, 1974, p. 162.

The amount of expenditure incurred in these two Tribal Development Blocks was found to be somewhat less than the allotment. The Scheduled Tribes population of Kolli Hills Block was 20,300 and 23,827 and in Yercaud Block 13,901 and 16,823 according to the Census of 1961 and 1971 respectively. These 40,650 members of Scheduled Tribes in these two Blocks in 1971 constitute 43·07 percent of the Scheduled Tribes population of Salem district and 13·04 percent of the total Scheduled Tribes population of Tamil Nadu. It is stated "Between themselves, these two block project areas cover only 64,600 tribals. As many as 2,47,000 tribals live outside these two areas."[10] It is not known how the figure of 64,600 was arrived at.

3.3. The Tribal Development Blocks in Kolli Hills anp Yercaud switched over to a new pattern known as Integrated Tribal Development Project from 1-4-1975. "This new strategy brings into focus the fact that the welfare of Scheduled Tribes is primarily the responsibility of the general sectors development. The efforts taken over and above general sectors efforts will be purely supplemental in nature. This logic leads us to the necessity of earmarking or quantifying the benefits that would accrue to the tribals from the general sector efforts.[11] It is understood that there are two pre-conditions for an Integrated Tribal Development Project, namely, (1) the minimum area must be a block and (2) the tribals must constitute 50 percent of the total population of that block. It may be observed that the concept that the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, or, for that matter of any other minority backward community, must primarily be the responsibility of the general sectors of development can be a good one from an academic or theoretical point of view. It may also be observed here that (1) Scheduled Tribes population in Tamil Nadu is relatively a small one at 3,11,515 or about 60,000 households, (2) the three districts of high concentration of members of Scheduled Tribes, namely, Salem, North Arcot and Dharmapuri, account for about 63 percent of the total tribal population in the State or about 38,000 households, (3) the specific areas of concentration

10. Government of Tamil Nadu, Report of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Madras, 1976, p. 11.

11. *Ibid.* p. 30.

of Scheduled Tribes in these three districts are on the hills and (4) 66.54 percent of the total tribal population of Salem district live in the hill areas of the district. To what extent benefits would accrue under the new strategy to the vast majority of the tribal people who are known to be living in the hill areas and in what period of time may have to be seriously considered.

3.4. The tentative outlay for the programmes for tribal welfare in Tamil Nadu during the Fifth Five-Year Plan period is given below:

	Tentative outlay for Vth Plan	Outlay for 1974–75 (Amount actually spent)	Outlay for 1975–76 (Budget Estimate)
		(Rupees in lakhs)	
State Schemes:			
Education	27·70	4·04	3·31
Employment & Economic Advancement	14·25	6·12	4·26
Health, Housing & Other schemes	42·00	8·62	6·21
Total	83·95	18·78	13·78
Centrally Sponsored Schemes:			
Research	20·00	—	0·01
Education	3·36	0·54	2·23
Employment and Economic advancement	2·50	1·30	0·52
Health, Housing and other schemes	11·00	—	0·62
Total	36·86	1·84	3·38
Grand Total	120·81	20·62	17·16

Source: Government of Tamil Nadu, Report of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, 1976, p. 33.

it is seen that the Budget Estimate for 1975–76 is less than the actual outlay for 1974–75, taking the State and Centrally sponsored schemes, together. It may be noted that there is a total provision of Rs. 53 lakhs (Rs. 42 lakhs by the State and Rs. 11 lakhs by the Centre) for the category of "Health, Housing and other Schemes" for the Fifth Five-Year Plan period. Presumably this category includes communication, particularly laying of roads. It is known that a high percentage of the tribal people live in the hill areas, as for example, 66·54 percent of the tribal people in Salem district live in the hill areas. Road communication is imperative to break their isolation and to pave the way for their economic, educational and social betterment. While there is a road going up the hill in Yercaud and in Kolli Hills in Namakkal taluk, there are not enough roads connecting the important villages and connecting them with the main road. The total allotment of Rs. 53 lakhs for "Housing, Health and other schemes" for the entire Fifth Five-Year Plan period would be inadequate to lay the needed roads either in the Kalrayan Hills in Attur taluk or in the Kolli Hills in Rasipuram taluk of Salem district. There is, on the other hand, a much too generous provision of Rs. 20 lakhs for Research.

3.5. According to a Press report dated 21-12-1976, "The Tamil Nadu Government has sanctioned Rs. one crore for various development schemes for the welfare of the tribals in five districts during 1976–77", "The districts covered are Salem, North Arcot, South Arcot, Dharmapuri and Tiruchirapalli. South Arcot district with the Kalrayan hills, gets the highest allocation of Rs. 61·71 lakhs. Amounts sanctioned for other districts are: North Arcot Rs. 10·09 lakhs; Salem Rs. 88·9 lakhs; Dharmapuri Rs. 2·49 lakhs and Tiruchi Rs. 6·06 lakhs" and "Some areas approved for the implementation of the schemes are: Yercaud, Kolli Hills, Kalrayan Hills, Pachamalai Hills and Aranthumalai (Salem district), Javadhi Hills (North Arcot); Pachamalai Hills (Tiruchi); Kalrayan Hills (South Arcot) and Sitteri Hills (Dharmapuri)". It is also stated in the same Press report that "sanction of about Rs. 66 lakhs has been made for building roads...........", presumably in the tribal pockets in the five districts. The criterion, if any, that was used by the State Govern-

ment for the allocation of the quantum of funds for these five districts is not known. But, it is to be pointed out in this connection that Salem district, which ranks first in the concentration of members of Scheduled Tribes with its 30·3 percent of the total, Tamil Nadu tribal population, has been allotted only Rs. 8·89 lakhs, while Tiruchirapalli and South Arcot districts, which rank seventh and eighth in the concentration of Scheduled Tribes with their 4·19 percent and 4·53 percent of the State tribal population respectively, have been allotted Rs. 6·06 lakhs and Rs. 61·71 lakhs respectively. Dharmapuri district, which ranks third in the concentration of Scheduled Tribes with its 9·67 percent of the total tribal population, is to get only Rs. 2·49 lakhs. There has been a lot of publicity about the 'tribals' living in Kalrayan Hills in Kallakurichi taluk of South Arcot district. But, those living in the Kalrayan Hills in South Arcot district were not classified as belonging to Scheduled Tribes in the Census of 1961 or, 1971, since it is known that they belong to the Malayali Tribe and since the Malayali Tribe is scheduled only for the districts of North Arcot, Salem and Tiruchirapalli (and not for South Arcot district) according to the Presidential Order, 1956. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Act, 1976, seeking to abolish the area restriction for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, is yet to come into force. But, the State Government seems to have classified them as belonging to Scheduled Tribes since 1969. This matter is dealt with under "Discrepancies" later in this section.

4. Voluntary Organisations

It is learnt that there are only five voluntary organisations in Tamil Nadu which have been interested in tribal welfare to a limited extent.

1. Sri Sarguru Sarva Sangam is running three residential schools for tribal pupils, two in Nilgiris district and one in Coimbatore district, and also one dispensary for Scheduled Tribes in Coimbatore district.

2. The Nilgiris District Adivasi Welfare Association is maintaining three dispensaries and one mobile medical unit in Nilgiris for Scheduled Tribes.

3. The Servants of India Society is running a residential school for Scheduled Tribes in Nilgiris district, and this organisatoin is known to be particularly interested in the Tribes of Todas and Kotas.

4. The Palanimalai Adivasi Welfare Sangam and the Aggal Adivasi Seva Sangam are jointly maintaining a hostel for Scheduled Tribes pupils in Madurai District.

It may be pointed out that there is no voluntary organisation interested in promoting the welfare of the members of Scheduled Tribes on a State-wide basis. It was learnt that none of these voluntary organisations can expand their present activities or undertake new activities for want of funds. The Secretary of one of these voluntary organisations was bitterly complaining that even the small amount of Government grant is seldom received in due time, often forcing him to borrow funds to keep the activities going.

5. Discrepancies

Various Government publications/reports, as given in the Bibliography, were consulted while this instant Report was under preparation. Some factual errors came to be noticed in some of them. To avoid any possible confusion to the readers, the errors that came to be noticed are given below:

(a) The list of Scheduled Tribes for Tamil Nadu, as in the Presidential Order, 1956, contains the names of 42 Scheduled Tribes, as may be seen in Appendix 1 of this Report. Only 28 and 33 of the 42 Scheduled Tribes were enumerated in the Census of 1961 and 1971 respectively (See Appendix 2). The reasons for not enumerating the other Tribes, as given in the Census Report of 1961, may be seen in para 3.1 of Section A of Chapter I of this Report. The impression that all the 42 Tribes have been identified and that they are found to be living in Tamil Nadu is created in two of the State Government Reports (A Sub-Plan for Tribal Development in Tamil Nadu, Directorate of Harijan Welfare, 1974, pp. 37–38, and Report of the Committee on

Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Government of Tamil Nadu, 1976, p. 12, para 2.7). The reason for the identical error in both the Reports would seem to be that both the Reports had been prepared by the same person.

(b) The Kalrayan Hills run through Attur taluk of Salem district, Kallakurichi taluk of South Arcot district and Chengam taluk of North Arcot district, according to the Census Reports. That portion of the Kalrayan Hills known as Chinnakalrayan Hills is in Attur taluk of Salem district only, while the other portion of the Kalrayan Hills known as Periakalrayan Hills runs through all the three districts. But, in page 42 of A Sub-Plan for Tribal Development in Tamil Nadu, 1974, it is stated "The Kalrayan Hills area consists of the Periakalrayan Hills falling within the boundaries of Salem District and the Chinnakalrayan Hills falling within the boundaries of South Arcot District", while it is seen in page 11 of the Report of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes 1976, "The Kalrayan Hills actually transcend two districts, namely, Salem and South Arcot. The portion falling under Salem District is known as the Chinnakalrayan Hills and the portion falling under South Arcot district is known as the Periakalrayan Hills", and in the same Report on page 7 Periakalrayan Hills in Chengam taluk is listed as an area of concentration of Scheduled Tribes in North Arcot district.

(c) The Scheduled Tribes population of South Arcot district, according to the Census of 1971, is 14,105, and the taluk-wise distribution is Gingee: 4,819, Tindivanam: 4,082, Villupuram: 1,339, Tirukoilur: 1,212, Kallakurichi: 74, Vriddhachalam: 1,327, Cuddalore: 234 and Chidambaram: 1,018. The Kalrayan Hills is in Kallakurichi taluk and the population of Scheduled Tribes in that Taluk is only 74. It would, therefore, be totally wrong to say that the area of concentration of Scheduled Tribes in South Arcot district is in Kalrayan Hills, as given in page 36 and page 8 of A Sub-Plan for Tribal Development in Tamil Nadu, 1974, and the

Report of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, 1976, respectively. This, incidentally, is another instance of an error in a Report getting repeated in a later Report. The members of Scheduled Tribes living in the Kalrayan Hills in Kallakurichi taluk of South Arcot district were not classified as Scheduled Tribes either in the Census of 1961 or 1971 since the tribals living there belong to the Malayali Tribe which is not scheduled for South Arcot district. The Malayali Tribe, according to the Presidential Order, 1956, which is still in force, is scheduled only to Salem, North Arcot and Tiruchirapalli districts. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976, seeking to abolish the 'area restriction' for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, has not yet come into force (see Appendix 3).

(d) The Malayali Tribe is not scheduled for South Arcot district even as of date. But, it is found that the Malayali Tribe is also scheduled for South Arcot district in page 33 of the Notification Governing the Grant of Scholarship of the Harijan Welfare Department, 1975–76 and it is also known that it has been so since 1969-70. It is not known how the Malayali Tribe came to be scheduled for South Arcot district also by the State Government.

(e) There seems to have been some misunderstanding/confusion even in the Office of the Census Operations for Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, Madras, in regard to the districts scheduled for the Malayali Tribe. It is found that those belonging to the Malayali Tribe in Kallakurichi taluk (Kalrayan Hills) of South Arcot district were first classified as Scheduled Tribes in the Census of 1971 and then deleted, as may be seen in the District Census Handbook for South Arcot District, Vol. II, 1972, pp. 341-345. It may be pointed out that in the Census Report of 1961, it is stated "Malayali is a Scheduled Tribe only in the districts of North Arcot, Salem and Tiruchirapalli. Though about 7,000 Malayalis live in the South Arcot district in as primitive conditions as the Malayalis in the other three districts, the Malayalis

enumerated in South Arcot district have not been classified as Scheduled Tribes." [Census of India, 1961, Vol. IX (Madras), Part V-A (i), p. 19].

(f) The only two Tribal Development Blocks (now known as Integrated Tribal Development Projects) in Tamil Nadu are in Kolli Hills and Yercaud of Salem district. It is found in Annexure I (copy of the G. O. Ms. No. 842 dated 12th November, 1974) on page 95 of the Report of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, 1976, that, "However, heavy concentrations are found in Kalrayan Hills and Kolli Hills—the only two Tribal Development Blocks in Salem District in this State". There is no Tribal Development Block in Kalrayan Hills of Salem district. Obviously, the words *Kalrayan Hills* should read as *Yercaud,* and it is not known whether the same mistake has been made in the original G. O. Ms. No. 842 dated 12th November, 1974.

(g) The two Integrated Tribal Development Projects (formerly known as Tribal Development Blocks) in Kolli Hills and Yercaud of Salem district cover a tribal population of only 40,650 (Kolli Hills 23,827 and Yercaud 16,823), and not 64,600 as mentioned on page 11 of the Report of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, 1976.

(h) The Madras Institute of Development Studies, Madras, brought out a research report in 1972, "Study of Educational Problems of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu—Profile Study—as a preparatory step for the later detailed Study of Educational Problems of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Tamil Nadu, 1973, (School and College), as part of the National Study for the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi. It is found that the passages from page 396 to 405 (both pages inclusive) and also page 408 in A Sub-Plan for Tribal Development in Tamil Nadu, 1974, are verbatim from the Profile Study of Educational Problems of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu of the Madras Institute of Development Studies, Madras, and the tables given as Annexures

from XXII to XXXXII (both inclusive) from page A 45 to A 65 have been lifted from the same Report. This writer happened to direct those Studies for the Madras Institute of Development Studies, and for the first time the concept of Co-efficient of Equality was introduced in those Studies for education and occupation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Expert Cell in the Directorate of Harijan Welfare, Madras, should have, in accordance with normal practice, acknowledged its sources in this matter. It is also to be added that copies of the Reports of the various Studies relating to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes conducted by the Madras Institute of Development Studies, Madras, were sent to The Secretary to the Government in the Social Welfare Department.

SECTION C

OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

1. Objective

1.1. The objective of this empirical Study in Salem district is to determine the role of Government and Voluntary Organisations in developing Tribal areas and to suggest suitable measures to promote the welfare of the members of Scheduled Tribes.

1.2. In order to achieve the above objective it was necessary, to obtain and analyse the primary data relating to:

(a) the economic conditions and occupational pattern of the members of Scheduled Tribes,

(b) their literacy and educational level, including educationa facilities,

(c) their housing conditions, including medical facilities

(d) their social condition,

(e) their level of politicization

and

(f) the existing programmes of the Government and voluntary organisations for the promotion of tribal welfare.

2. Methodology

2.1. Salem district was selected for this study for the important reason that this district with its 30·3 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribes population in the State ranks first among the various districts in the State according to the Census of 1971. Further, the members of a single Scheduled Tribe, the Malayali Tribe, account for 97·89 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes in Salem district. The Malayali Tribe with its 51·2 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribes population in the State is the largest Tribe

and the Malayali Tribe population in Salem district constitutes 57·95 per cent of the total Malayali population of 1,59,426 in the State.

2.2. The sampling universe was the population of Scheduled Tribes in Salem district, and the sampling design was a two-stage one, the villages/hamlets/pockets in which the members of Scheduled Tribes live being the first stage sample unit and the households being the second. The population of Scheduled Tribes in the rural areas of Salem district accounted for 99·67 per cent in 1971.

2.3. A structured draft interview schedule was prepared for the collection of data. It was administered to two members of Scheduled Tribes in each taluk in Salem district, and, on the basis of the pre-test, some modifications were made in the draft interview schedule. The pre-test revealed that about 35 minutes would be needed for each interview, that many of the memebers of Scheduled Tribes would be available only in the early hours of the morning or in the late evening hours and also the difficulty in reaching the hamlets/pockets in the remote areas on the hills. It was estimated that about 600 respondents could be canvassed during the allotted period for field investigation in the total period of ten months for this Study.

2.4. Some particulars were obtained from the Directorate of Harijan Welfare and the Office of Census Operation in Madras. The rural and urban population of Scheduled Tribes, taluk-wise and village-wise, was obtained from the District Census Handbook, Part X-B, Salem, 1972. The rural population of Scheduled Tribes in each village in each of the taluks was converted into households on the basis of 5 members to a household. It was decided to draw the sample from among such of those villages having 50 or more households on a random basis. The sample size worked out to 3 per cent of the households which is adequate for a Study of this type. The rural population of Scheduled Tribes in Salem district, taluk-wise, the number of villages in which members of Scheduled Tribes live, the estimated number of households in each taluk and the sample size of the households drawn from each taluk are shown in the following statement :

Taluk-wise Rural Population of Scheduled Tribes, Number of Villages, Number of Households and Sample Size

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	No. of Villages	Population	No. of Households	Sample Size at 3 per cent
1.	Attur	30	25,441	5,088	153
2.	Mettur	9	4,097	819	25
3.	Namakkal	20	16,137	3,227	97
4.	Omalur	8	2,828	566	17
5.	Rasipuram	33	16,778	3,356	101
6.	Salem	45	11,525	2,305	69
7.	Sankari	4	432	86	3
8.	Tiruchengode	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
9.	Yercaud (Sub-Taluk)	67	16,823	3,365	101
	Total	216	94,061	18,812	566

It was found that the number of villages having Scheduled Tribes, population of 250 or more, or 50 households or more, was 99 per cent constituting 45·83 per cent of the total number of villages (216) inhabited by Scheduled Tribes, these 99 villages accounted for 87·53 per cent (82,329) of the total Scheduled Tribes rural population in Salem district.

2.5. The total urban population of Scheduled Tribes in Salem district, according to the Census of 1971, is only 322, with 7 in Namakkal taluk, 31 in Rasipuram taluk, 240 in Salem taluk and 44 in Tiruchengode taluk. During the pre-test of the Interview Schedule not a single household of Scheduled Tribes in the urban areas in any of these four taluks could be located. Consequently the urban population of Scheduled Tribes of 322, or about 60 households, could not be included in the sample for this Study.

2.6. To ensure representative character for the sample it was decided to canvass respondents from several pockets/hamlets/ villages in each taluk. Care was also taken to canvass respondents from pockets/hamlets in the different parts of the various hills. The name of villages/hamlets/pockets from which the sample was drawn, the serial number of respondents in each of them and the sample size are given in the following statement:

S.No.	Taluk	Village/hamlet/pocket	S.No. of Respondents	Sample Size
1.	Attur	(1) Paithur	001 — 029	
		(2) Periakalrayan Hills Melnadu	030 — 054	
		(3) Keeripatty	055 — 079	
		(4) Periakalrayan Hills Kilnadu	080 — 106	
		(5) Chinnakalrayan Hills Therkunadu	107 — 131	
		(6) Chinnakalrayan Hills Vadakkunadu	132 — 153	... 153
2.	Mettur	(1) Palamalai	154 — 163	
		(2) Kannamoochi	164 — 168	
		(3) Alamarathupatti	169 — 172	
		(4) Lakkampatti	173 — 178	... 25
3.	Namakkal	(1) Thinnanur	179 — 202	
		(2) Selur Nadu	203 — 228	
		(3) Valavandhi Nadu	229 — 253	
		(4) Nadukombai	254 — 275	... 97
4.	Omalur	(1) Kokuttapatti	276 — 282	
		(2) Danispet	283 — 292	... 17
5.	Rasipuram	(1) Gundini Nadu	293 — 319	
		(2) Alathur Nadu	320 — 344	
		(3) Naraikanaru	345 — 347	
		(4) Mullakurichi	348	
		(5) Unanthangal	349 — 368	
		(6) Karkoodalpatti	369 — 396	... 101
6.	Salem	(1) Elampillai	397 — 403	
		(2) Udayapatti	404 — 413	
		(3) Konamaduvu	414 — 428	
		(4) Periakoundapuram	429 — 444	
		(5) Thumbalpatti	445 — 451	
		(6) Jarugumalai	452 — 462	... 69
7.	Sankari	Edanganasalai	463 — 465	... 3
8.	Yercaud (Sub-Taluk)	(1) Muluvi	466 — 480	
		(2) Nagalur	481 — 485	
		(3) Karadiyur	486 — 501	
		(4) Puliyur	502 — 524	
		(5) Vellakadai	525 — 536	
		(6) Thalaisolai	537 — 548	
		(7) Kiliyur	549 — 552	
		(8) Mudagampady	553 — 566	... 101
		37		566

It may be pointed out that 347 respondents constituting 61·49 per-cent of the total sample were from different parts of the hill areas in the various taluks, and it may be recalled in this context that the members of Scheduled Tribes living on the hills account for 66·54 per cent of the Tribal population in Salem district.

2.7. The respondents in the various taluks, excepting Yercaud and the Kolli Hills of Namakkal taluk, were spontaneously co-operative and freely talked about their problems and were very hospitable to the field investigators. It needed considerable effort and time to elicit the co-operation of the respondents in Yercaud and in the Kolli Hills in Namakkal taluk. It is significant to point out that the members of Scheduled Tribes in these two areas have been exposed to the general population as they frequently come down to the plains for various purposes and also these two areas come under the Integrated Tribal Development Blocks. Though the Kolli Hills in Rasipuram taluk is also covered by the I. T. D. B., the Block office is far removed from most of the areas. It may also be significant to note that the respondents in these two areas showed evidence of some suspicion about this investigation and that these people have been contacted by many in connection with different investigations since they are located in relatively more easily accessible areas. Further, in the case of Yercaud, most of the members of Scheduled Tribes are employed in the various Plantations there.

2.8. There was some difficulty in getting suitable persons for the field investigation since field investigation had to be done mostly in remote parts of hill areas and also since the employment was to be a short-term one. One of the Field investigators selected was from a Scheduled Tribe in Salem district itself with a post-graduate degree in Economics, and he turned out to be extremely helpful in the field investigation. The selected persons were given some training which was of help to them and also made supervision of field work less arduous. The field investigators were asked to translate the interview schedule in Tamil and get themselves familiar with the Tamil version.

2.9. Field investigation turned out to be even more strenuous and time-consuming than anticipated. The hamlets/pockets in

which respondents had to be canvassed were widely distributed in the hill areas and most of them could be reached only on foot, and sometimes the path was through forest areas. Some of the pockets that were at the foot of the hills were reached on bi-cycles. Most of the respondents on the hill areas could be interviewed only during the early hours of the morning or during late evening hours which necessitated the field investigators having to stay on the hills during night on many days. Each interview took more time than expected since many things had to be explained to the respondents and their many questions had to be answered. Practically every respondent wanted to know what benefit would accrue to him as a result of this investigation.

2.10. The Government officials in the District Head-Quarters in Salem and the taluk officials in the various taluks were cordial and tried to be helpful. After the tabulation of the data was over, a two-day conference of about 20 Scheduled Tribes leaders from the various taluks was held in Salem to ascertain from them the needs of their communities and the priorities. Individual conference with some of them was also held. It was learnt during these conferences that some of the educated members of Scheduled Tribes who are employed have decided to form a District Association of Scheduled Tribes in Salem and get it registered. Some of those who attended the conference and some who could not attend it gave written representations.

2.11. The terminology 'Non-Scheduled Tribe population used in this Report refers to the general population excluding the population of the members of Scheduled Tribes.

2.12. As for the design of this Report, the District picture is given in Chapter 2, while the succeeding seven Chapters deal with seven taluks so as to permit inter-taluk comparisons. Since the sample that had to be drawn from Sankari taluk was only 3 and since there was no substantial difference in the characteristics of the respondents from this taluk and the adjoining Salem taluk the composite picture of these two taluks is given in Chapter 1. The major findings and suitable suggestions are given in the last Chapter.

CHAPTER 2

DISTRICT PICTURE

1. General

1.1. The area of Salem district (8,463 Sq. Kms.) accounts for about 6·65 per cent of the total area of Tamil Nadu. This district accounts for 30·3 per cent and 7·1 per cent of the Tamil Nadu Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe population respectively, as of 1971. The Scheduled Tribes population of 94,383 (18,876) households @ 5 members to a household) in this district constitutes 3·15 per cent of the total district population. The members of Scheduled Tribes living in the hill areas constitute 66·54 per cent (12,560 households) of the district tribal population. The urban population of Scheduled Tribes in Salem district is only 322 or 64 households. It is also found that Yercaud Sub-taluk has no urban Scheduled Tribes population, while Tiruchengode taluk has no rural Scheduled Tribes population.

1.2. As for the tribe-wise distribution of Scheduled Tribes population in Salem district, it is found that only 11 Tribes were enumerated in the 1971 Census for a total of 94,170, while tribe-wise 'Unclassified' accounted for 213 members. The Malayalt Tribe, the single largest tribe in the State with its 57·95 per ceni of the total tribal population, accounts for 97·89 per cent of Scheduled Tribes population in Salem district. The total population of 7 of the 11 enumerated Tribes is a meagre 179, as may be seen in para 5.1. in Section A of Chapter 1.

1.3. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Salem district is higher at 10·16 per cent as compared to the 9·02 per cent among them in Tamil Nadu as a whole, as of 1971; but, it is very much lower than the percentage of literacy of 32·41 among Non-Scheduled Tribes in Salem district. The taluk-wise distribution of literates among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe in Salem district, as of 1971, is shown in the following statement:

SCHEDULED TRIBES

S.No.	Name of Taluk	Taluk Population	As % of district population	Taluk literates	As % of district literates
1.	Attur	25,441	27·0	1,594	16·6
2.	Mettur	4,097	4·3	413	4·3
3.	Namakkal	16,144	17·1	2,461	25·7
4.	Omalur	2,828	3·0	241	2·5
5.	Rasipuram	16,809	17·7	1,806	18·8
6.	Salem	11,765	12·5	1,120	11·7
7.	Sankari	432	0·5	185	1·9
8.	Tiruchengode	44	0·1	8	0·1
9.	Yercaud (Sub-Taluk)	16,823	17·8	1,761	18·4
	Total	94,383	100·0	9,589	100·0

NON-SCHEDULED TRIBE

S.No.	Name of Taluk	Taluk Population	As % of district population	Taluk literates	As % of district literates
1.	Attur	3,64,044	12·6	1,12,426	12·0
2.	Mettur	2,47,662	8·5	80,483	8·6
3.	Namakkal	4,64,731	16·0	1,46,009	15·5
4.	Omalur	2,55,316	8·8	60,561	6·5
5.	Rasipuram	2,04,753	7·1	69,041	7·3
6.	Salem	7,63,351	26·3	3,05,544	32·5
7.	Sankari	2,89,414	10·0	67,061	7·1
8.	Tiruchengode	2,94,969	10·2	91,701	9·8
9.	Yercaud (Sub-Taluk)	13,993	0·5	6,587	0·7
	Total	28,98,233	100·0	9,39,413	100·0

It is seen that Attur taluk which has 27·0 percent of the district tribal population has only 16·6 per cent of tribal literates in the district, while Namakkal taluk which has 17·1 per cent of the district tribal population has 25·7 per cent of the tribal literates in the district. The same feature is seen in the case of Non-Scheduled Tribe in the taluks of Salem and Sankari.

1.4. The Malayali Tribe, which accounts for 97·89 per cent of the tribal population of Salem district, accounts for 95·39 per cent of the tribal literates in the district. The Malayali Tribe literates in the district are only 9,141 out of 92,394 or 9·89 per cent of their population in Salem district, and this tribe-wise Malayali literacy percentage is lower than the district tribal literacy of 10·16 per cent. The size of the population of a Tribe cannot be ignored while studying any of the characteristics of that Tribe or while comparing one Tribe with another. The tribe-wise literacy in Salem district is shown below:

Tribe	No. of Persons	No. of literates	Percentage
1. Adiyan	78	Nil	Nil
2. Irular	448	55	10·1
3. Kondakapu	54	30	55·6
4. Konda Reddi	507	225	43·4
5. Malayali	92,394	9,141	9·9
6. Palliyan	9	Nil	Nil
7. Paniyan	18	Nil	Nil
8. Pulayan	1	1	100·0
9. Sholaga	8	4	50·0
10. Koraga	11	4	36·4
11. Kuruman	642	91	14·2
Unclassified	213	38	17·8
Total	94,383	9,589	10·16

1.5. The important characteristics of the sample households for this Study in Salem district as a whole are analysed in this Chapter.

2. Demographic

2.1. The size of the rural sample households for this Study, as has been mentioned in an earlier context, is 566, which is 3 per cent of the total/rural households of 18,812 in the district.

2.2. The heads of 542 (95·8 per cent) of the households are males and the heads of the remaining 24 households are females.

2.3. Alll but one of the households are Hindus by religious affiliation, and the other one is a Christian household.

2.4. As for the marital status of the heads of the households, 8 (1·4 per cent) are unmarried, 502 (88·7 per cent) are married and living with spouse and the remaining 56 (9·9 per cent) were married but widowed or seperated. All the heads of the 8 households who are unmarried are found to be males. One of them is a college student. Early marriage among the tribals is a common custom. It is known that the male who desires to marry has to pay a 'bride price' (dowry). It is quite possible that the economic condition of the 7 male heads of the households does not permit paying the 'bride price' (dowry).

2.5. The age group of the heads of the sample households is shown below:

20 years of age or less............	6	1·1%
Between 21 and 30 years..........	113	19·9%
Between 31 and 40 years..........	178	31·4%
Between 41 and 50 years..........	152	26·8%
Between 51 and 60 years...........	80	14·1%
61 years of age or above..........	37	6·7%
Total	566	100·0

Taking the period of life between 21 and 50 years of age as the prime of life, it is noted that the heads of 443 (78·1%) of the households are in the prime of life.

2.6. The size of the sample households is given below:

5 members or less....................	359	53·4%
Between 6 and 10 members	192	33·9%
11 members or more................	15	2·7%
Total	566	100·0%

It may be observed that 359 (63·4%) of the households have 5members or less, which is considered to be the normal size of a household in Tamil Nadu.

2.7. It may be of interest to see whether the kind of occupation of the head of the household has any influence over the size of the household.

Table 1. **Occupation of the Head of Household By the Size of Household**

Occupation	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	158	44	1	203
	77.8	21.7	0.5	
	(44·0)	(29·9)	(6·7)	(35·9)
Plantation labourer	28	13	—	41
	68·3	31·7	—	
	(7·8)	(6·8)	—	(7·2)
Farmer & Salaried Employment	7	6	—	13
	53·8	46·2	—	
	(1·9)	(3·1)	—	(2·3)
Farmer	160	128	13	301
	53·2	42·5	4·3	
	(44·6)	(66·7)	(86·6)	(53·2)
Salaried employment	4	1	—	5
	80·0	20·0	—	
	(1·1)	(0·5)	—	(0·9)
Any other	2	—	1	3
	66·7	—	33·3	
	(0·6)	—	(6·7)	(0·5)
Total	359	192	15	566
	63·4	33·9	2·7	100·0

Note: Column percentages are given within brackets. It is seen that of the 15 households having 11 numbers or more, 13 (86·6 per cent) are the households of farmers. It is also seen that while the households of farmers having 5 members or less account for only 53·2 per cent of the 301 households of farmers, households of agricultural labourers having 5 members or less account for 77·8 per cent of the 203 households of agricultural labourers.

2.8. The size of the household can also be looked at from the angle of the monthly income of the household.

Table 2. **Monthly Income of Household By Size of Household**

Monthly Income	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Below Rs. 100/-	120	20	—	140
	85·7	14·3		
	(33·4)	(10·4)		(24·7)
Rs. 100/- to Rs. 199/-	175	81	1	257
	68·1	31·5	0·4	
	(48·7)	(42·2)	(6·7)	(45·4)
Rs. 200/- to Rs. 299/-	33	44	6	83
	39·8	53·0	7·2	
	(9·2)	(22·9)	(40·1)	(14·7)
Rs. 300/- to Rs. 399/-	15	26	4	45
	33·3	57·8	8·9	
	(4·2)	(13·5)	(26·6)	(8·0)
Rs. 400/- to Rs. 499/-	7	7	2	16
	43·8	43·8	12·4	
	(2·0)	(3·6)	(13·3)	(2·8)
Rs. 500/- or more.	8	14	2	24
	33·3	58·3	8·4	
	(2·2)	(7·4)	(13·3)	(4·2)
No response	1	—	—	1
	100·0			
	(0·3)			(0·2)
Total	359	192	15	566
	63·4	33·9	2·7	100.0

It is seen that out of the 140 households having a monthly income of below Rs. 100/-, 120 (85·7 per cent) of the households have 5 members or less, and that there is not a single household having 11 numbers or more in that income group. It is also seen that 10 (66·7 per cent) of the 15 households having 11 members or more are to be found in the income range of Rs. 200/- to Rs. 399/- It may, therefore, be construed that the monthly income has some influence on the size of the household.

3. Occupational and Economic

3.1. The occupational classification of the heads of the sample households, as may have been seen in Table 1, is given below:

1.	Agricultural labourer	203	35·9%
2.	Plantation labourer	41	7·2%
3.	Farmer and salaried employment	13	2·3%
4.	Farmer	301	53·2%
5.	Salaried employment	5	0·9%
6.	Any other	3	0·5%
	Total	566	100·0

(*Note*: "Any other", includes one tailor, one cycle repairer and one old-age pensioner)

Since tribal plantation labourers are to be found only in Yercaud sub-taluk in Salem district, all the 41 sample households of plantation labourers are only from that taluk. Teachers and village officers who are also engaged in farming are grouped under the category of Farmer and Salaried employment. It is to be noted that 558 (98·6 per cent) sample households are connected with agricultural activities. It may be recalled that unskilled workers among Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu, as of 1961, was 97·22 per cent (see para 7·2 of Section A in Chapter I). Farming in the hill areas is dependent on the rains, and there cannot be any conventional classification of land as wet or dry in the hill areas as in the plains. Further, it could not be properly ascertained as to how many of the farmers have 'patta' for the land they cultivate or even the exact extent of the land they cultivate. It was learnt during the field investigation that many of the tribal farmers in some of the hill areas cultivate different pieces of land during different periods of time (shift cultivation). The methods of cultivation were found to be primitive. It was observed that most of the tribal farmers are content to get just enough to keep their body and soul together having no ambitions/aspirations in life.

3.2. The average monthly income of the sample households by occupational qualification is shown in the following Table:

Table 3. **Average Monthly Income of the Households by Occupation** (Income in Rupees)

Occupation	Below 100/-	100/- to 199/-	200/- to 299/-	300/- to 399/-	400/- to 499/-	500/- or more	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	97	98	7	1	—	—	—	203
	47·8	48·3	3.4	0·5	—	—	—	
	(69·3)	(38·1)	(8·4)	(2·2)	—	—	—	35·9)
Plantation labourers	6	25	8	2	—	—	—	41
	14·6	61·0	19·5	4·9	—	—	—	
	(4·3)	(9·7)	(9·6)	(4·3)	—	—	—	(7·2)
Farmer & Salaried employment	1	2	6	1	1	2	—	13
	7·7	15·3	46·2	7·7	7·7	15·4	—	
	(0·7)	(0·8)	(7·3)	(2·2)	(6·2)	(8·7)	—	(2·3)
Farmer	33	130	60	41	15	21	1	301
	11·0	43·2	19·9	13·6	5·0	7·0	0·3	
	(23·6)	(50·6)	(72·3)	(89·1)	(93·8)	(91·3)	(100·0)	53·2)
Salaried employment	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	5
	20·0	40·0	20·0	20·0	—	—	—	
	(0·7)	(0·8)	(1·2)	(2·2)	—	—	—	(0·9)
Any other	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
	66·7	—	33·3	—	—	—	—	
	(1·4)	—	(1·2)	—	—	—	—	(0·5)
Total	140	257	83	46	16	23	1	566
	24·7	45·4	14·7	8·1	2·8	4·1	0·2	(100·0)

All the 23 households having an average monthly income of Rs. 500/- or more are from among households of farmers (21) and farmers and salaried employment (2). Out of the 140 households having an average monthly income of below Rs. 100/-, 97 (69·3 per cent) households are found to be those of agricultural labourers. Again, 195 (96·1 per cent) of the agricultural labourer households are found to be having an average monthly income of Rs. 200/-, while only 75·6 per cent (31 out of 41) of the households among plantation labourers are found in that income range. The farmer households are seen to be relatively better off than the households in the other categories. The percentage of farmer households is seen to be increasing in the successive higher income range till the Rs. 400/- to Rs. 499/- range. The only household in the category of 'Any other' in the average monthly income group of Rs. 200/- to Rs. 299/- is that of the tailor with 11 or more members in the household.

3.3. When the average monthly income of most of the sample households is rather on the low side, it is to be expected that many of them would be in debt.

Table 4. **Occupation by Debt** (In Rupees)

Occupation	1000/- or below	1001 to 2000	2001 to 3000	3001 to 4000	4001 to 5000	5001 or more	No debt	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	101 49·8 (45·1)	24 11·8 (29·8)	6 2·9 (23·1)	1 0·5 (11·1)	5 2·5 (25·0)	3 1·5 (4·8)	63 31·0 (51·3)	— — —	203 — (35·9)
Plantation labourer	26 63·4 (11·6)	7 17·1 (6·9)	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	8 19·5 (65·)	— — —	41 — (7·2)
Farmer & Salaried employment	5 38·5 (2.2)	3 23·0 (3·0)	2 15·4 (7·7)	— — —	— — —	1 7·7 (1·6)	2 15·4 (1·6)	— — —	13 — (2·3)
Farmer	89 29·6 (39·7)	66 21·9 (65·3)	18 6·0 (69·2)	8 2·7 (88·9)	15 5·0 (75·0)	58 19·2 (93·6)	46 15·3 (37·4)	1 0·3 (100·0)	301 — (53·2)
Salaried employment	3 60·0 (1·4)	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	2 40·0 (1·6)	— — —	5 — (0·9)
Any other	— — —	1 33·3 (1·0)	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	2 66·7 (1·6)	— — —	3 — (0·5)
Total	224 39·6	101 17·8	26 4·6	9 1·6	20 3·5	62 11·0	123 21·7	1 0·2	566 (100·0)

It is seen that only 21·7 per cent (123 out of 566) households are free from debt. Out of the 62 households having a debt of Rs.5,001/- or more, 93·6 per cent (58) are from farmer households, while 37·4 per cent of farmer households are free from any debt. While 31·0 per cent of the agricultural labourer households are free from debt, only 19·5 per cent (8 out of 41) of the plantation labourer households are free from debt. On the whole, the extent of debt of 39·6 per cent of the households (224 out of 566) is Rs. 1,000/- or below, and the extent of debt of another 17·8 per cent (101 out of 566) households is seen to be between Rs. 1,001/- to Rs. 2,000/-.

3.4. The following Table shows household income by debt:

Table 5. **Household Income by Debt** (In Rupees)

Average Monthly Income	1,000/- or below	1,001 to 2,000	2,001 to 3,000	3,001 to 4,000	4,001 to 5,000	5,001 or more	No Debt	No response	Total
Below 100/-	85	16	3	2	3	—	31	—	140
	60·7	11·4	2·2	1·4	2·2	—	22·1	—	
	(37·8)	(15·8)	(11·6)	(22·2)	(15·0)	—	(25·2)	—	(24·7)
100/- to 199/-	104	57	6	3	8	11	68	—	257
	40·5	22·2	2·3	1·2	3·0	4·3	26·5	—	
	(46·4)	(56·4)	(23·1)	(33·4)	(40·0)	(17·7)	(55·3)	—	(45·4)
200/- to 299/-	27	15	7	2	5	13	14	—	83
	32·5	18·0	8·5	2·5	6·1	15·6	16·8	—	
	(12·0)	(14·9)	(27·0)	(22·3)	(25·0)	(20·9)	(11·4)	—	(14·7)
300/- to 399/-	6	6	6	2	2	17	6	—	45
	13·4	13·4	13·4	4·4	4·4	37·6	13·4	—	
	(2·8)	(5·9)	(23·1)	(22·2)	(10·0)	(27·5)	(4·9)	—	(8·0)
400/- to 499/-	1	3	2	—	2	8	—	—	16
	6·3	18·7	12·5	—	12·5	50·0	—	—	
	(0·5)	(3·0)	(7·6)	—	(10·0)	(12·9)	—	—	(2·8)
500/- or more	1	4	2	—	—	12	4	1	24
	4·2	16·7	8·2	—	—	50·0	16·7	4.2	
	(0·5)	(4·0)	(7·6)	—	—	(19·4)	(3·2)	(100.0)	(4·2)
No response	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—	—	100·0	—	—	
	—	—	—	—	—	(1·6)	—	—	(0·2)
Total	224	101	26	9	20	62	123	1	566
	39·6	17·8	4·6	1·6	3·5	11·0	21·7	0·2	(100.0)

It is noted that in the average monthly income groups of Rs. 400/-, to Rs. 499/- and Rs. 500/- or more, the extent of debt of 50·0 per cent of the households is Rs. 5,000/- or more. On the whole, the extent of debt of 11·0 per cent of the households (62 out of 566) is Rs. 5000/- or more. It is seen that among the households that are free from debt, 55·3 per cent (68 out of 123) are in the average monthly income group of Rs. 100/- to Rs. 199/-, while the extent of debt of another 40·5 per cent of them (104 out of 224) is Rs. 1,000/- or below. Another noteworthy feature is that the percentage of the households in the average monthly income group of below Rs. 100/- shows a very sharp decline as the debt range increases, and there is not a single household in that income group having a debt of Rs. 5, 001/- or more. It is to be taken to mean that that income group does not command high credit. Another significant observation is that there is not a single household which is free from debt in the average monthly income group of Rs. 400/- to Rs. 499/-.

3.5. Having shown the indebtedness of the sample households in the previous Table, the sources from which money is borrowed are shown in the following Table:

Table 6. **Occupation by Sources of Borrowing**

Occupation	Relatives/Friends	Money lender	Bank	Government	Two Sources	Three Sources	Four Sources	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	30 21·4 (41·3)	99 70·7 (36·0)	1 0·7 (7·7)	4 2·9 (23·5)	5 3·6 (10·6)	— — —	— — —	1 0·7 (50·0)	140 (31.6)
Plantation labourer	4 12·1 (5·3)	26 78·8 (9·4)	1 3·0 (7·7)	— — —	2 6·1 (4·3)	— — —	— — —	— — —	33 (7·4)
Farmer and Salaried employment	3 27·3 (4·0)	4 36·3 (1·5)	— — —	2 18·2 (11·8)	1 9·1 (2·1)	1 9.1 (9·1)	— — —	— — —	11 (2·5)
Farmer	37 14·5 (48·0)	143 56·1 (52·0)	11 4·3 (84·6)	11 4·3 (64·7)	39 15·3 (83·0)	10 3·9 (90·9)	3 1·2 (100·0)	1 0·4 (50·0)	255 (57·6)
Salaried employment	— — —	3 100·0 (1·1)	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	3 (0·7)
Any other	1 100·0 (1·4)	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 (0·2)
Total	75 16·9	275 62·1	13 2·9	17 3·8	47 10·6	11 2·5	3 0·7	2 0·5	443 (100·0)

It is seen that 62·1 per cent (275 out of 443) of the households have borrowed from moneylenders, besides some out of the 13·8 per cent (61 out of 433) have borrowed from two sources or more. A very small number of households have borrowed either from Banks or from Government. It is to be noted that 70·7 percent (99 out of 140) of the agricultural labourer households, 78·8 per cent (26 out of 33) Plantation labour households and 56·1 per cent (143 out of 255) of the farmer households have borrowed from moneylenders. It is significant that all the three Salaried employment households have borrowed from money lenders. The farmer households borrow from all possible sources. That such a high percentage of households have borrowed from moneylenders shows that those households are unable to get the amount of loan either from Banks or from the Government and also at the time they need the loan most. That 16·9 per cent (75 out of 443) of the households have borrowed from relatives or friends may be because those households are unable to command credit from other sources.

3.6. The sources of borrowing by the households in the various monthly income groups are given in the following Table:

Table 7. **Income Groups by Sources of Borrowing**

Income (In Rs.)	Relatives/Friends	Money lender	Bank	Government	Two Sources	Three Sources	Four Sources	No response	Total
Below 100/-	24 22·0 (32·0)	76 69·7 (27·7)	—	3 2·8 (17·6)	4 3·7 (8·5)	1 0·9 (9·1)	—	1 0·9 (50·0)	109 (24·6)
100/- to 199/-	39 20·6 (52·0)	126 66·7 (45·8)	3 1·6 (23·0)	4 2·1 (23·5)	15 7·9 (31·9)	2 1·1 (18·2)	—	—	189 (42·7)
200/- to 299/-	9 13·0 (12·0)	41 59·4 (14·9)	6 8·7 (46·2)	3 4·3 (17·6)	8 11·6 (17·0)	1 1·5 (9·1)	1 1·5 (33·4)	—	69 (15·6)
300/- to 399/-	3 7·7 (4·0)	17 43·5 (6·2)	2 5·1 (15·4)	4 10·1 (23·5)	7 18·1 (14·9)	5 12·9 (45·4)	1 2·6 (33·3)	—	39 (8·8)
400/- to 499/-	—	8 50·0 (2·9)	—	1 6·3 (6·0)	5 31·2 (10·7)	2 12·5 (18·2)	—	—	16 (3·6)
500/- or more	—	7 35·0 (2·5)	2 10·0 (15·4)	2 10·0 (11·8)	8 40·0 (17·0)	—	—	1 5·0 (50·0)	20 (4·5)
No response	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 100·0 (33·3)	—	— 1 (0·2)
Total	75 16·9	275 62·1	13 2·9	17 3·8	47 10·6	11 2·5	3 0·7	2 0·5	443 (100·0)

All the 75 households below the average monthly income of Rs. 300/- have borrowed from relatives or friends, while 260 out of 275 households (94·6 per cent) in the same income range have borrowed from money lenders. It is noted that 8 households out of 16 (50·0 per cent) and 7 households out of 20 (35·0 per cent) in the monthly income range of Rs. 400/- to Rs. 499/- and Rs. 500/- or more respectively, besides some which have borrowed from two sources or more, have borrowed from money lenders. Money lender is the main source of borrowing irrespective of the average monthly income of the households. It is also seen that in the successive higher income groups the households borrowing from two or more sources increases.

3.7. Having shown the extent of indebtedness and the sources of borrowing, the purpose of borrowing is shown in the following Table:

Table 8. **Occupation by Purposes of Borrowing**

Occupation	Family maintenance	Repay old debts	Construct house	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Marriage expenditure	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	116 82·8 (40·9)	1 0·7 (33·3)	2 1·4 (20·0)	8* 5·7 (7·1)	3 2·2 (16·7)	10 7·2 (66·7)	— — —	140 (31·6)
Plantation labourer	32 96·7 (11·7)	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 3·3 (6·7)	— — —	33 (7·4)
Farmer and Salaried employment	5 45·5 (1·8)	— — —	— — —	5 45·5 (4·4)	1 9·0 (5·5)	— — —	— — —	11 (2·5)
Farmer	124 48·6 (44·1)	2 0·8 (66·7)	8 3·1 (80·0)	100 39·2 (88·5)	14 5·5 (77·8)	4 1·6 (26·6)	3 1·2 (100·0)	255 (57·6)
Salaried employment	3 100·0 (1·1)	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	3 (0·7)
Any other	1 100·0 (0·4)	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 (0·2)
Total	281 63·4	3 0·7	10 2·2	113 25·5	18 4·1	15 3·4	3 0·7	443 (100·0)

(*Note: The 8 Agricultural labour households (Table 8) in the hill areas which have borrowed for agricultural purposes are for cultivating a piece of land not owned by them.)

It is obvious from the Table above that the main purpose of borrowing is for family maintenance. In the case of farmer households, borrowing is resorted to for both family maintenance and for agricultural purposes. A good percentage of households have borrowed for 'unproductive purposes', with or without the capacity to repay. Among the Agricultural labourer households of 140, 10 have borrowed to meet marriage expenditure, and among all the households which have borrowed to meet marriage expenditure, the Agricultural labourer households constitute 66·7 per cent.

3.8. The purposes of borrowing may also be seen from the angle of the average monthly income groups in the following Table:

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Table 9. **Income Groups by Purposes of Borrowing**

Income (In Rs.)	Family maintenance	Repay old debts	Construct house	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Marriage expenditure	No response	Total
Below 100/-	85	1	1	14	2	6	—	109
	77·9	0·9	0·9	12·9	1·9	5·5	—	—
	(30·2)	(33·3)	(10·0)	(12·4)	(11·1)	(40·0)	—	(24·6)
100/- to 199/-	136	—	6	32	9	5	1	189
	72·0	—	3·2	16·9	4·8	2·6	0·5	—
	(48·4)	—	(60·0)	(28·4)	(50·0)	(33·3)	(33·4)	(42·7)
200/- to 299/-	36	1	2	24	2	4	—	69
	52·1	1·5	2·9	34·8	2·9	5·8	—	—
	(12·8)	(33·3)	(20·0)	(21·3)	(11·1)	(26·7)	—	(15·6)
300/- to 399/-	12	1	1	20	4	—	1	39
	30·8	2·6	2·6	51·2	10·2	—	2·6	—
	(4·3)	(33·4)	(10·0)	(17·6)	(22·2)	—	(33·3)	(8·8)
400/- to 499/-	3	—	—	13	—	—	—	16
	18·8	—	—	71·2	—	—	—	—
	(1·1)	—	—	(11·5)	—	—	—	(3·6)
500/- or more	9	—	—	9	1	—	1	20
	45·0	—	—	45·0	5·0	—	5·0	—
	(3·2)	—	—	(8·0)	(5·6)	—	(33·3)	(4·5)
No response	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	—	—	—	100·0	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	(0·8)	—	—	—	(0·2)
Total	281	3	10	113	18	15	3	443
	63·4	0·7	2·2	25·5	4·1	3·4	0·7	(100·0)

It is seen that among the households with an average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, 221 out of 281 (78·6 per cent) and 11 out of 15 (73·3 per cent) have borrowed for family maintenance and marriage purposes respectively, and very likely most of these households, if not all of them, have borrowed from money lenders at high rates of interest. These households with their very slender income would never be able to liquidate their debt, even if the amount of debt is not very large. It was seen in Table 7 that out of the 298 households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, 192 (64·4 per cent) have borrowed from moneylenders.

4. Housing and Medical

4.1. It was observed during the field investigation that the housing of most of the sample households was very deplorable. The huts were found to be, either round or square, with mud walls and thatched roof, with no windows or partition inside, and mostly with a small cave-like entrance to crawl in. In short, they were found to be utterly unfit for human habitation. It was found that out of the 566 sample households, 536 live in their own huts, and out of them only 220 households (about 41 per-cent) have 'Patta' for the land on which the huts have been put up. The remaining 30 households live in rented or rent-free huts. It was also learnt during the field investigation that the housing condition was not influenced by the relative economic conditions of the sample households. There is no lighting in the huts in the hill areas or in the hamlets/pockets in which the tribal members live. During cold nights they keep the firewood burning inside the huts to keep themselves warm.

4.2. It was observed during the field investigation that in most of the hill areas there are no wells to draw drinking water. The water from the same pond/pool is used for washing clothes, for bathing the cattle and also used for drinking purposes. In some areas where wells have been dug either there is no water or they are not properly maintained.

4.3. Primary Health Centres were seen only in Yercaud and Kolli hills (Namakkal taluk), and these two P. H. Centres are not centrally located. The distance of the nearest Primary Health Centre/Clinic, according to the respondents, is as follows:

Less than ½ mile	7
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	15
Between 1 mile and 1½ miles	18
Between 1½ miles and 2 miles	6
Over 2 miles	519
No response	1
Total	566

There are no medical practitioners in the hill areas, and consequently, tribal members in the hill areas are unable to get medical assistance for emergency cases or for maternity cases. It would seem that the tribal members are not averse to making use of the available medical facilities. Out of the 449 respondents with children among the 566 sample households, 425 stated that they take their children to the Clinic when they get sick despite the distance. The common diseases, according to the respondents, are common cold and fever, chicken pox, whooping cough, dysentery, jaundice and skin diseases among children, and venereal diseases, malaria, typhoid, dental, and to some extent tuberculosis and leprosy among adults.

5. Literacy and Education

5.1. Out of the 566 respondents, 132 (23·4 per cent) are literates, while 434, including all the 24 female respondents, (76·6 per cent) are illiterates. The educational level of the 132 literates is shown below:

Primary school	80	60·6%
Middle school	28	21·2%
High school	20	15·2%
College	4	3·0%
Total	132	100·0

5.2. The educational level of the 132 literates tribe-wise, is shown below:

		Primary	Middle	High	College	Total
1.	Malayali	72	26	19	4	121
2.	Irular	1	–	–	–	1
3.	Konda-Reddi	6	2	1	–	9
4.	Kurnmba (Kuruman)	1	–	–	–	1
	Total	80	28	20	4	132

(*Note*: 1. The Kurumba tribe is scheduled only for the Nilgiris district, according to the Presidential Order, 1956, and some members of the Kurmba tribe in Salem district have given their tribe name as 'Kuruman' to become eligible for educational and other concessions.

2. No Konda-Reddi was enumerated in Salem district in the Census of 1961, but 507 of them were enumerated in the Census of 1971. The Children of this tribe who joined educational institutions prior to 1972 in Salem district became ineligible for educational and other concessions.)

5.3. One of the deterrents for the members of Scheduled Tribes to send their children to school can be the distance of the school from their village/hamlet. The distance of the nearest school, according to the respondents, is shown below:

	Primary	High
Less than ½ mile	386	9
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	102	23
Between 1 mile and 1½ miles	2	6
Between 1½ miles and 2 miles	18	6
Over 2 miles	45	514
No response	13	8
Total	566	566

It is to be particularly noted that 92 per cent (514 of the 558 respondents, excluding the 8 no response) of the respondents have stated that the nearest High school is beyond 2 miles, and the distance of the nearest High school can well be an important deterrent for the membersof Schdeduled Tribes to send their children to High school when they reach that level of education. It is to be presumed that the distance is a very important factor for the very high percentage of drop-out between the Middle and High Schoor levels of education in the case of Scheduled Tribes. It is further seen that out of the 514 respondents who have stated that the nearest High school is beyond 2 miles, 151, 100, 85, 73, 60, 25, 17, and 3 are in Attur (Kalrayan Hills), Rasipuram (Kolli Hills), Yercaud, Namakkal (Kolli Hills), Salem, Mettur, Omalur and Sankari taluks respectively. Further, all the 45 respondents who have stated that the Primary school is beyond 2 miles are in Attur taluk (Kalrayan Hills): It would certainly be too much to expect the parents to send their children to the primary school when it is beyond 1 mile or $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, especially in the case of the communities that have not yet taken to education seriously.

5.4. Another important factor which can influence the members of Scheduled Tribes either to send their children to school or not to send them would be their awareness of the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes. Out of the 534 respondents (excluding the 32 no response), 390 respondents (73%) are not aware of the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes, as may be seen in the following Table:

Table 10. **Occupational Classification By Awareness of Educational Concessions and Privileges**

Occupation	Yes	No	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	33 16·3 (22·9)	157 77·3 (40·2)	13 6·4 (40·6)	203
Plantation labourer	11 26·8 (7·6)	28 68·3 (7·2)	2 4·9 (6·3)	41
Farmer and Salaried employment	10 76·9 (6·9)	3 23·1 (0·8)	—	13
Farmer	87 28·9 (60·4)	197 65·4 (50·5)	17 5·7 (53·1)	301
Salaried employment	3 60·0 (2·2)	2 40·0 (0·5)	—	5
Any other	—	3 100·0 (0·8)	—	3
Total	144 25·4	390 68·9	32 5·7	566 (100·0)

It is seen that even among the 5 respondents who are in salaried employment, 2 are not aware of the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes pupils.

5.5. To look at the picture of the respondents' awareness of the concessions and privileges provided by the Government from the angle of income groups, it is seen that out of the 84 (excluding the 1 no response) in the average monthly income groups of Rs.300/- and more, 43 (51·2 per cent) are not aware of such educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government, as may be seen in Table 11. It may also be seen in the same Table that out of the 449 respondents (excluding the 32 no response) in the average monthly income groups of below Rs. 300/-, 347 (72%) are not aware of such concessions for Scheduled Tribes pupils.

Table 11. **Income Groups by Awareness of Educational Concessions and Privileges**

Income (In Rs.)	Yes	No	No response	Total
Below 100/-	20	110	10	140
	14·2	78·7	7·1	
	(13·8)	(28·3)	(31·2)	(24·7)
100/- to 199/-	53	189	15	257
	20·6	73·5	5·9	
	(36·8)	(48·5)	(46·9)	(45·4)
200/- to 299/-	29	48	6	83
	35·0	57·8	17·2	
	(20·1)	(12·3)	(18·8)	(14·7)
300/- to 399/-	17	28	—	45
	37·8	62·2		
	(11·9)	(7·1)		(8·0)
400/- to 499/-	7	8	1	16
	43·7	50·0	6·3	
	(4·8)	(2·0)	(3·1)	(2·8)
500/- or more	17	7	—	24
	70·8	29·2		
	(11·9)	(1·8)		(4·2)
No response	1	—	—	1
	100·0			
	(0·7)			(0·2)
Total	144	390	32	566
	25·4	68·9	5·7	(100·0)

It has been pointed out in an earlier context that the 10·16 per-cent of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Salem district is higher than that of the State, which is 9·2 per cent, and it is seen that 390 out of the 534 Scheduled Tribes respondents (excluding the 32 no response), constituting as high a percentage as 73, irrespective of occupation or income are not aware of the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes pupils. It is no wonder that the Co-efficient of Equality at the various educational levels in the State has been very low (see para 6·5 of Section A in Chapter 1). The Government educational concessions and privileges have been in existence for nearly three decades now. The communication gap between the Government and the tribal people is seen to be a very wide one.

6. Social

6.1. The tribe-wise composition of the sample households in the rural areas in Salem district is as follows:

Malayali	543	96·0 %
Irular	9	1·5 %
Konda Reddi	13	2·3 %
Kurumbar(Kuruman)	1	0·2 %
	566	100·0

6.2. The members of most of the Scheduled Tribes do not even know of the very existence of other Tribes. Such being the case, the response to the question whether there is inter-dining or inter-marriage between the members of the various Tribes cannot be very meaningful.

Inter-dining between the members of the various Tribes

Yes	25
No	130
Don't know	407
No response	4
Total	566

Inter-marriage between the members of the various Tribes

Yes		2
No		351
Don't know		210
No response		3
	Total	566

6.3. **Inter-dining and inter-marriage between the members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes**

Yes		Nil
No		563
No response		3
	Total	566

It is, therefore, seen that there is perhaps little social contact between the members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes. The members of Scheduled Tribes consider themselves as far superior to the members of Scheduled Castes whom they also consider as 'untouchables'.

6.4. **Inter-dining between the members of Scheduled Tribes and the members of 'Backward Classes'**

Yes		563
No		Nil
No response		3
	Total	566

Inter-marriage between the members of Scheduled Tribes and the members of 'Backward Classes

Yes		Nil
No		563
No response		3
	Total	566

6.5. To a question whether the members of Scheduled Tribes suffer social disabilities only because of their belonging to Scheduled Tribes, the response from the sample households is given below:

Social disabilities

Yes	42
No	322
Don't know	188
No response	14
Total	566

Those who answered in the affirmative were not able to specify any particular social disability; they stated that they are 'being looked down upon' by the members of other communities.

6.6. Marriage among the members of Scheduled Tribes is a very important ceremony, as is the case with the other Hindu communities. But, unlike in most of the other Hindu communities, the marriage of a boy is more expensive than that of a girl in the case of Scheduled Tribes, as may be seen in Tables 12 and 13.

Table 12. **Income Groups by Expenditure for a Daughter's Mariage** (Expenditure In Rs.)

Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- and more	Total
Below 100/-	55	9	—	—	64
	85·9	14·1			
	(24·4)	(13·0)			(21·0)
100/- to 199/-	113	28	1	1	143
	79·0	19·6	0·7	0·7	
	(50·2)	(40·5)	(14·3)	(25·0)	(46·9)
200/- to 299/-	33	14	2	—	49
	67·3	28·6	4·1		
	(14·7)	(20·3)	(28·6)		(16·0)
300/- to 399/-	19	7	1	1	28
	68·0	25·0	3·5	3·5	
	(8·4)	(10·2)	(14·3)	(25·0)	(9·2)
400/- to 499/-	1	4	1	—	6
	16·6	66·8	16·6		
	(0·5)	(5·8)	(14·3)		(2·0)
500/- or more	4	6	2	2	14
	28·6	42·8	14·3	14·3	
	(1·8)	(8·7)	(28·5)	(50·0)	(4·6)
No response	—	1	—	—	1
		100·0			
		(1·5)			(0·3)
Total	225	69	7	4	305
	73·8	22·6	2·3	1·3	(100·0)

Note: Only 305 out of the 566 respondents have daughters.

Table 13. **Income Groups by Expenditure for a Son's Marriage** (Expenditure in Rs.)

Income in Rs.	1,000/-or below	1,001/-to 2,000/-	2,001/-to 3,000/-	3,001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	23 30·3 (41·8)	40 52·8 (19·0)	11 14·4 (14·9)	2 2·5 (4·0)	76 (19·6)
100/- to 199/-	30 15·5 (54·6)	115 59·2 (54·5)	33 17·0 (44·6)	16 8·3 (32·0)	194 (49.7)
200/- to 299/-	1 1.7 (1.8)	29 50·0 (13·7)	17 29·3 (23·0)	11 19·0 (22·0)	58 (14.8)
300/- to 399/-	—	16 51·7 (7·5)	10 32·3 (13·5)	5 16·0 (10·0)	31 (7.9)
400/- to 499/-	1 9·1 (1·8)	4 36·3 (2·0)	1 9·1 (1·4)	5 45·5 (10·0)	11 (2.8)
500/- or more	—	7 36·8 (3·3)	2 10·5 (2·6)	10 52·7 (20·0)	19 (4.9)
No response	—	—	—	1 100·0 (2·0)	1 (0.3)
Total	55 14·2	211 54·1	74 18·9	50 12·8	390 (100·0)

Note: Only 390 out of the 566 respondents have sons.

It is seen in the two fore-going Tables that while 12·8 per cent of the respondents (50 out of 390) have spent more than Rs. 3001/. for a son's marriage, only 1·3 per cent of the respondents (4 out of 305) have spent more than Rs. 3,001/- for a daughter's marriage. While only 14·2 per cent of the respondents (55 out of 390) have spent Rs. 1,000/-or below for a son's marriage, 73·8 per cent (225 out of 305) have spent Rs. 1,000/- or below for a daughter's marriage. The marriage expenditure of a boy is more for the reason that the boy's family has to pay a 'bride price' (dowry), while the reverse is the general custom among the other Hindu communities.

7. Politicization

The level of politicization among the members of Scheduled Tribes is seen to be very high. It is found that in the last Legislative Assembly/Parliament election 525 out of the 547 96 % eligible to vote excercised the franchise. Those who were not eligible to vote in the last general election accounted for 19. It is also found that 38 of the respondents hold elected positions like members or Presidents of Panchayat Boards and Temple Trustees.

8. Others

8.1. To a question relating to the respondents' awareness about the interest of the Government in tribal welfare, it is found that 133 out of 566 (23·5 per cent) answered in the affirmative and the rest in the negative. Here again, there is a very wide communication gap between the Government and Scheduled Tribes.

8.2. To a question whether the respondents are aware of any voluntary organisation working for tribal welfare in Salem district, all the respondents answered in the negative. It is known that there is no voluntary welfare organisation in Salem district interested in tribal welfare.

8.3. The last question in the Interview Schedule that was used for this study reads: "In what ways do you think that the Government can further help to promote the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes?" The suggestions offered by the respondents have been classified and summarised in Appendix 14.

9. Significant Points

The more significant points that have emerged from the foregoing analysis are:

1. Salem district accounts for a little more than 30 per cent (about 19,000 households) of the tribal population in Tamil Nadu. About 67 per cent (nearly 13,000 households) of the tribal population in Salem district live in the hill areas of the district. The members of the Malayali Tribe account for nearly 98 per cent of the tribal population of the district, and they account for nearly 58 per cent of the tribal population in the State.

2. The percentage of literacy among the members of Scheduled Tribes in Salem district is slightly higher than that for the State as a whole, 10·16 and 9·02 respectively, while their percentage of literacy is very much lower than that of the Non-Scheduled Tribe in the district, 10.16 and 32·41 respectively.

3. About 78 per cent of the heads of the sample households are found to be in the prime of life, between 21 and 50 years of age, and those between 21 and 30 years of age account for nearly 20 per cent. A little more than 63 per cent of the sample tribal households have 5 or less members.

4. About 99 per cent of the sample households are engagep in agricultural activities. Among the sample households, about 36 per cent, a little more than 7 per cent and about 53 per cent are accounted for by the households of agricultural labourers, plantation labourers and farmers respectively.

5. The average monthly income (both in cash and kind) of about 96 per cent of the agricultural labourer, 76 per cent of the plantation labourer and 54 per cent of the farmer households in the sample is below Rs. 200/- On the whole, the average monthly income of 70 per cent of the sample households is below Rs. 200/-.

6. About 22 per cent of the sample households are free from debt. Among the households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, about 81 per cent are indebted upto Rs. 2,000/-. Among the households which have borrowed, 63 per cent have borrowed for family maintenance.

7. Out of those in debt, about 62 per cent have borrowed from money lenders, and out of those who have borrowed from money lenders, about 74 per cent households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-.

8. The members of Scheduled Tribes in general and those living in the hill areas in particular live in huts utterly unfit for human habitation.

9. The members of Scheduled Tribes are not averse to making use of the available medical facilities. About 95 per cent of the heads of the sample households with children take their children, when they get sick, to the primary Health Centre/Clinic. The nearest primary Health Centre/Clinic is over 2 miles for about 92 per cent of the sample households. Medical facilities for emergency and maternity cases are not available to them.

10. For about 91 per cent of the sample households the nearest High school is beyond 2 miles, while for about 8 per cent of the sample households the nearest Primary school is beyond 2 miles. About 69 per cent of the sample households are not aware of the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes.

11. Most of the heads of the sample households are not even aware of the very existence of other Tribes. The members of Scheduled Tribes, based on the sample, do not suffer from any specific social disability because of their belonging to Scheduled Tribes. Among the members of Scheduled Tribes in the sample the marriage of a son is more expensive than that of a daughter and there is the custom of 'bride price'. Based on the sample the members of Scheduled Tribes do not have any kind of social contact with the members of Scheduled Castes; but they dine with the members of 'Backward Classes'.

12. About 96 per cent of the heads of the sample households exercised their franchise in the last general elections. About 7 per cent of the heads of the sample households are in elected positions like members/Presidents of Panchayat Boards and Temple trustees.

13. About 73 per cent of the sample households are not aware that the Government is particularly interested in promoting their wlefare.

14. There is no voluntary organisation in the district rendering service to Scheduled Tribes.

Certain other significant points learnt during the field investigation are listed below:

(i) The children of the families of Konda Reddi and Kondakapu Tribes have come to be denied the educational concessions and the preference for employment enjoyed by the children of the other Scheduled Tribes, since these two Tribes were not enumerated till the Census of 1971 and since those children were not classified as Scheduled Tribes in the records of the educational Institutions (see para 3.10 in Section A of Chapter 1).

(ii) While many of the respondents were highly critical of the money lenders from the plain areas, the rate of interest and the manner of collection, some others expressed their gratitude to th money lenders for lending them at the times they needed loans and without adequate or no security at all. It was learnt that the relationship between these families and those of the money lenders is generations old. It is significant to point out that most of the indebted respondents did not wish to divulge the names of the money lenders.

(iii) The respondents in Jarugumalai in Salem taluk and in Palamalai in Mettur taluk expressed their willingness to come down and settle in the plain areas if they were provided with land or any other gainful employment.

(iv) The scheme for providing electric lights upto Karumans dhurai and the neighbouring villages in Chinnakalrayan Hill- in Attur taluk has been suspended, for whatever reason, after the metal poles had been planted and the wires had been drawn.

(v) Practically all the 41 respondents of the plantation labourer households in Yercaud Sub-taluk stated that they are not getting the benefit of the increased wage fixed by the Government.

(vi) About 15 bonded labourers of Sethapalayam village in Omalur taluk who were released from bonded labour and sent to Yercaud for employment in the Plantations did not get employment and consequently left Yercaud.

CHAPTER 3

ATTUR TALUK

1. General

1.1. The area of Attur taluk with its 1,685·88 sq. kms, accounts for 19·92 per cent of the total area of Salem district. This taluk accounts for 27·0 per cent and 30·9 percent of the Salem district Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe population respectively, as of 1971. Out of the population of Scheduled Tribes in Attur taluk (25,441 or about 5,088 households). 72·8 per cent (18,510 or about 3,702 households) live in the hill areas of the taluk.

1.2. The tribe-wise distribution of the population of Schdeduled Tribes in Attur taluk is shown below:

Irular	11
Malayali	25,399
Palliyan	9
Paniyan	18
Unclassified	4
Total	25,441

Out of the 11 Scheduled Tribes enumerated in Salem district as a whole, only the above four Tribes were enumerated in Attur taluk in 1971. It is seen that 3 Tribes account for only 38 persons.

1.3. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in the taluk is only 6·3 as against 10·16 for the district as whole and as against 30·9 per cent of the Non-Scheduled Tribe literacy in Attur taluk.

1.4. The important characteristics of the sample households in Attur taluk are analysed in this Chapter.

2. Demographic

2.1. The size of the sample for this taluk is 153, which is 3 per cent of the total households of Scheduled Tribes in this taluk.

2.2. The heads of 150 sample households are males and that of the other three females.

2.3. All the households are Hindus by religious affiliation.

2.4. As for the marital status of the heads of the sample house-holds, 2 are unmarried, 146 married and living with spouse and 5 were married but widowed or separated.

2.5. The age groups of the heads of the sample households are shown below:

20 years of age or less	3	2·0%
Between 21 and 30 years	34	22·2%
Between 31 and 40 years	41	26·8%
Between 41 and 50 years	46	30·6%
Between 51 nd 60 years	27	17·1%
61 years of age or above	2	1·3%
Total	153	100·0

It is seen that 121 (79·6 per cent) of the sample households are in the prime of life (between 21 and 50 years of age), and 34 persons (22·2 per cent) are between 21 and 30 years of age.

2.6. The size of the sample households is given below:

5 members or less	95	62·1%
Between 6 and 10 members	53	34·6%
11 members or more	5	3·3%
Total	153	100·0

The households having 5 members or less account for 62·1 per cent as against 63·4 per cent in the district as a whole.

2.7. The size of the sample households by the occupational classification of the head of the households is shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1. **Occupational Classification by Size of Households**

Occupation	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	34 73·9 (35·8)	12 26.1 (22.6)	—	46 (30·0)
Farmer and Salaried employment	1 100·0 (1·1)	—	—	1 (0·7)
Farmer	59 56·2 (62.0)	41 39·0 (77·4)	5 4·8 (100·0)	105 (68·6)
Any other	1 100.0 (1·1)	—	—	1 (0·7)
Total	95 62·1	53 34·6	5 3·3	153 (100·0)

It is seen that all the 5 households having 11 members or more are farmer households, and there are only 13 farmer households with 11 members or more in the district as a whole.

2.8. The size of the sample households by the income groups among the heads of the households is shown in the following Table:

Table 2. **Monthly/Household Income by Size of Household**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Below 100/-	33 82·5 (34·7)	7 17·5 (13·2)	—	40 (26.1)
100/- to 199/-	48 61·5 (50·5)	29 37·2 (54·7)	1 1·3 (20·0)	78 (51.0)
200/- to 299/-	2 16·7 (2·1)	8 66·6 (15·1)	2 16·7 (40·0)	12 (7·8)
300/- to 399/-	8 57·1 (8·4)	5 35·7 (9·4)	1 7·2 (20·0)	14 (9·2)
400/- to 499/-	3 75·0 (3·2)	1 25·0 (1·9)	—	4 (2·6)
500/- or more	—	3 75·0 (5·7)	1 25·0 (20·0)	4 (2·6)
No response	1 100·0 (1·1)	—	—	1 (0·7)
Total	95 62·1	53 34·6	5 3·3	153 (100·0)

It is to be noted that the only one farmer household with the average monthly income of Rs. 100/- to 199/- in the district as a whole is in this taluk.

3. Occupational and Economic

3.1. The occupational classification of the sample households, as may have been seen in Table 1, is given below:

1.	Agricultural labourer	46	30·0%
2.	Farmer and Salaried employment	1	0·7%
3.	Farmer	105	68·6%
4.	Any other (Cycle repairer)	1	0·7%
	Total	153	100·0

It is seen that all but 1 of the 153 sample households are engaged in agricultural activities.

3.2. The average monthly income of the sample households by the occupational classification is shown in the following Table:

Table 3. **Occupational Classification by Average Monthly Household Income (Income in Rupees)**

Occupation	Below 100	100/- to 199/-	200/- to 299/-	300/- to 399	400/- to 499/-	500/- or more	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	26 56·5 (65·0)	20 43·5 (25·6)	—	—	—	—	—	46 (30·0)
Farmer and Salaried employment	—	—	1 100·0 (8·3)	—	—	—	—	1 (0·7)
Farmer	13 12·4 (32·5)	58 55·2 (74·4)	11 10·5 (91·7)	14 13·3 (100·0)	4 3·8 (100·0)	4 1·0 (100·0)	1 1·0 (100·0)	105 (68·6)
Any other	1 100·0 (2·5)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (0·7)
Total	40 26·1	78 51·0	12 7·8	14 9·2	4 2·6	4 2·6	1 0·7	153 (100·0)

It is seen that the average monthly income of all the 46 households of agricultural labourers is below Rs. 200/- They account for about 24 per cent of the 195 households in that category in that income range in the district as a whole. Only 1 out of the 13 in the category of Farmer and Salaried employment in the district as a whole is in this taluk.

3.3. The indebtedness of the households by occupational classification is shown in the following Table 4:

Table 4. **Occupation by Debt** (In Rupees)

Occupation	1000/- or below	1001/- to 2000/-	2001 to 3000/-	3001 to 4000/-	4001 to 5000/-	5001/- or more	No debt	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	20 43·5 (32·8)	5 10·9 (18·5)	2 4·3 (40·0)	—	1 2·2 (16·7)	—	18 39·1 (52·9)	—	46 (30·0)
Farmer and Salaried employment	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 100·0 (2·9)	—	1 (0·7)
Farmer	41 39·0 (67·2)	21 20·9 (77·8)	3 2·8 (60·0)	1 1·0 (100·0)	5 4·8 (83·3)	18 17·1 (100·0)	15 14·3 (44·2)	1 1·0 (100·0)	105 (68·6)
Any other	—	1 100.0 (3.7)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (0·7)
Total	61 39·8	27 17·6	5 3·3	1 0·7	6 3·9	18 11·8	34 22·2	1 0·7	153 (100.0)

It is seen that 22·2 per cent (34 out of 153) households are free from debt, and these 34 households account for 27·6 per cent of the households free from debt in the district as a whole. Among the agricultural labourer households 54·4 per cent are indebted upto Rs.2,000/-, while 39·1 per cent of the households are free from debt. Among the farmer households, 59 per cent are indebted upto Rs. 2,000/-, while 14·3 per cent of the households are free from debt. The only household in the category of farmer and salaried employment is free from debt.

3.4. It is found that 88·2 per cent (30 out of 34) households which are free from debt are the households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-. It is also found that 65·3 per cent (77 out of 118) with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- are indebted upto Rs. 2,000/-. All the 7 households (excluding 1 no response) with the average monthly income of Rs. 400/- or more are indebted as may be seen in the following Table 5.

Table 5. **Household Income by Debt** (In Rupees)

Average Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000 or below	1,001 to 2,000	2,001 to 3,000	3,001 to 4,000	4,001 to 5,000	5,001 or more	No debt	No response	Total
Below 100/-	24 60·0 (39·4)	4 10·0 (14·8)	2 5·0 (40·0)	—	1 2·5 (16·7)	—	9 22·5 (26·5)	—	40 (26·1)
100/- to 199/-	32 41·0 (52·5)	17 21·8 (63·0)	1 1·3 (20·0)	1 1·3 (100·0)	4 5·1 (66·6)	2 2·6 (11·2)	21 26·9 (61·7)	—	78 (51·0)
200/- to 299/-	3 25·0 (4·9)	2 16·7 (7·4)	—	—	1 8·3 (16·7)	4 33·3 (22·3)	2 16·7 (5·9)	—	12 (7·8)
300/- to 399/-	1 7·1 (1·6)	3 21·5 (11·1)	1 7·1 (20·0)	—	—	7 50·0 (38·5)	2 14·3 (5·9)	—	14 (9·2)
400/- to 499/-	—	1 25·0 (3·7)	1 25·0 (20·0)	—	—	2 50·0 (11·2)	—	—	4 (2·6)
500/- or more	1 25·0 (1·6)	—	—	—	—	2 50·0 (11·2)	—	1 25·0 (100·0)	4 (2·6)
No response	—	—	—	—	—	1 100·0 (5·6)	—	—	1 (0·7)
Total	61 39·8	27 17·6	5 3·8	1 0·7	6 3·9	18 11·8	34 22·4	1 0·7	153 (100·0)

3.5. As for the sources from which the 119 indebted house-holds have borrowed, 78 (65·5 per cent) have borrowed from moneylenders. Among the 28 agricultural labourer households in debt, 22 (78·5 per cent) and among the 89 farmer households in debt (excluding 1 no response), 56 (62·3 per cent) have borrowed from moneylenders. It would seem that which have to the households borrow find it easier to borrow from moneylenders than from any other source. Not a single agricultural household has borrowed from the Government, while the farmer households borrow from all possible sources. Only 4 (3·4 per cent) households have borrowed from Banks and the Government, as may be seen in Table 6. That 16 (13·4 per cent) have borrowed from relatives/friends would indicate that they constitute the second ready and easy source, next to moneylenders, for the households to borrow from.

Table 6. **Occupation by Sources of Borrowing**

Occupation	Relatives/ Friends	Money lenders	Bank	Government	Two Sources	Three Sources	Four Sources	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	3 10·7 (18·7)	22 78·5 28·2)	1 3·6 (33·3)	—	1 3·6 (6·7)	—	—	1 3·6 (50·0)	28 (23·5)
Farmer	12 13·3 (75·0)	56 62·3 (71·8)	2 2·2 (66·7)	1 1·1 (100·0)	14 15·6 (93·3)	2 2·2 (100·0)	2 2·2 (100·0)	1 1·1 (50·0)	90 (75·6)
Any other	1 100·0 (6·3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (0·9)
Total	16 13·4	78 65·5	3 2·5	1 0·9	15 12·6	2 1·7	2 1·7	2 1·7	119 (100·0)

3.6. The sources of borrowing by the households in the various monthly income groups are shown in the following Table 7:

Table 7. **Income Groups by Sources of Borrowing**

Income (In Rs.)	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Bank	Government	Two sources	Three sources	Four sources	No response	Total
Below 100/-	5 16·1 (31·2)	23 74·2 (29·5)	—	—	2 6·5 (13·3)	—	—	1 3·2 (50·0)	31 (26·0)
100/- to 199/-	10 17·5 (62·5)	42 73·7 (53·8)	—	—	5 8·8 (33·4)	—	—	—	57 (47·9)
200/- to 299/-	—	6 60·0 (7·7)	1 10·0 (33·4)	—	2 20·0 (13·3)	—	1 10·0 (50·0)	—	10 (8·4)
300/- to 399/-	1 8·3 (6·3)	5 41·8 (6·4)	1 8·3 (33·3)	1 8·3 (100·0)	3 25·0 (20·0)	1 8·3 (50·0)	—	—	12 (10·0)
400/- to 499/-	—	1 25·0 (1·3)	—	—	2 50·0 (13·3)	1 25·0 (50·0)	—	—	4 (3·4)
500/- or more	—	1 25·0 (1·3)	1 25·0 (33·3)	—	1 25·0 (6·7)	—	—	1 25·0 (50·0)	4 (3·4)
No response	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 100·0 (50·0)	—	1 (0·9)
Total	16 13·4	78 65·5	3 2·5	1 0·9	15 12·6	2 1·7	2 1·7	2 1·7	119 (100·0)

Out of the 78 households which have borrowed from moneylenders 65 (83·3 per cent) of the households are with the average monthy income of below Rs. 200/-, and out of the 88 households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- 65 (73·2%) have borrowed from moneylenders. There is not a single household with the average income of below Rs. 200/- which has borrowed either from a Bank or from the Government which could well mean that they do not have any or adequate security to offer to borrow from either of those two sources and that the moneylender does give them loan without any or adequate security.

3.7. The purposes of borrowing by the various categories are shown in the Table below:

Table 8. **Occupation by Purposes of Borrowing**

Occupation	Family maintenance	Repay old debts	Construct house	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Marriage expenditure	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	23 82·1 (30·3)	—	—	3 10·7 (8·8)	1 3·6 (33·3)	1 3·6 (33·3))	—	28 (23·5)
Farmer	52 57·8 (68·4)	—	1 1·1 (100·0)	31 34·5 (91·2)	2 2·2 (66·7)	2 2·2 (66·7)	2 2·2 (100·0)	90 (75·6)
Any other	1 100·0 (1·3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (0·9)
Total	76 63·8	—	1 0·9	34 28·6	3 2·5	3 2·5	2 1·7	119 (100·0)

Most of the households (63·8 per cent) have borrowed for family maintenance, and it is to be construed that the households which have to borrow for family maintenance are unable to get loans from Banks or from the Government.

3.8. The purposes of borrowing by the various income groups are seen in the following Table:

Table 9. **Income Groups by Purposes of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Family maintenance	Construct house	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Marriage expenditure	No response	Total
Below 100/-	25 80·7 (32·9)	—	5 16·2 (14·7)	—	1 3·1 (33·4)	—	31 (26·0)
100/- to 199/-	41 71·9 (53·9)	1 100·0 (100·0)	10 17·4 (29·4)	3 5·3 (100·0)	1 1·8 (33·3)	1 1·8 (50·0)	57 (47·9)
200/- to 299/-	4 40·0 (5·3)	—	5 50·0 (14·8)	—	1 10·0 (33·3)	—	10 (8·4)
300/- to 399/-	2 16·7 (2·6)	—	10 83·3 (29·4)	—	—	—	12 (10·0)
400/- to 499/-	1 25·0 (1·4)	—	3 75·0 (8·7)	—	—	—	4 (3·4)
500/- or more	3 75·0 (3·9)	—	—	—	—	1 25·0 (50·0)	4 (3·4)
No response	—	—	1 100·0 (3·0)	—	—	—	1 (0·9)
Total	76 63·8	1 0·9	34 28·6	3 2·5	3 2·5	2 1·7	119 (100·0)

Among the households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, 86·8 per cent (66 out of 76) and 66·7 per cent (2 out of 3) have borrowed for family maintenance and marriage expenditure respectively, and it was noted in Table 7 that out of the 88 households with the average monthly income of below Rs.200/-, 65 (73.9 per cent) households have borrowed from moneylenders.

4. Housing and Medical

4.1. The housing condition of practically all the sample households in this taluk is deplorable. Out of the 153 sample households, 149 live in their own huts and out of them only 31 (20·7 per cent) households have patta for the land on which they have constructed the huts. The relative economic conditions of the households are not reflected in the type of huts in which they live. There is no lighting in the huts or in the hamlets/pockets in which the tribals live.

4.2. There are no wells for drinking water. The available water, from near or far, is used for all purposes.

4.3. According to all the 153 respondents, the nearest Primary Health Centre /Clinic is beyond 2 miles. Out of the 133 households with children, 131 stated that they take their children, when they get sick, to a clinic, even though far away. The common diseases, according to the respondents are common cold and fever, Chicken pox, whooping cough and dysentery among children and venereal diseases, malaria, dental and rheumatism among adults. A few persons afflicted with leprosy were also noticed during the field investigation.

5. Literacy and Education

5.1. Out of the 153 respondents, 28 (18·3 per cent) are literates, and the remaining 125 (81·7 per cent) are illiterates. The educational level of the 28 literates is shown below:

Primary school	21	75·0%
Middle school	2	7·1%
High school	2	10·8%
College	3	7·1%
Total	28	100·0

Out of the 566 sample households in the district as a whole, only 4 respondents have studied upto the college level, and 3 of those 4 are in this taluk.

5.2. The distance of the nearest school, according to the respondents, is shown below:

	Primary	High
Less than ½ mile	35	Nil
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	51	Nil
Between 1 mile and 1½ miles	2	Nil
Between 1½ miles and 2 miles	18	Nil
Over 2 miles	45	151
No response	2	2
Total	153	153

It is seen that all the 151 respondents excluding the 2 no response, have stated that the nearest High school is beyond 2 miles, while 29·4 per cent (45 out of 153) of the respondents have stated that the nearest Primary school is beyond 2 miles. The distance of the school can easily influence the members of Scheduled Tribes whether to send their children to school or not.

5.3. As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes, it is found that 75·8 per cent (116 out of 153) respondents are not aware of such concessions.

6. Social

6.1. As for the tribe-wise composition of the 153 respondents in this taluk, 152 are Malayalis and 1 Kurumbar.

6.2. It was found that most of the respondents are not even aware of the existence of other Tribes.

Inter-dining between the members of the various Tribes

Yes	9
No	3
Don't know	139
No response	2
Total	153

Inter-marriage between the members of the various Tribes

Yes	1
No	74
Don't know	77
No response	1
Total	153

6.3. **Inter-dining and Inter-marriage between the members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes**

Yes	Nil
No	152
No response	1
Total	153

6.4. **Inter-dining and Inter-marriage between the members of Scheduled Tribes and 'Backward Classes'**

Inter-dining		Inter-marriage	
Yes	152	Yes	Nil
No response	1	No	152
		No response	1
Total	153	Total	153

6.5. The members of Scheduled Tribes do not seem to suffer from social disabilities because of their belonging to Scheduled Tribes.

Social Disabilities

Yes	20
No	95
Don't know	33
No response	5
Total	153

Even among the 20 respondents who answered in the affirmative, none was able to specify any specific social disability. All that they could say was that they are being 'looked down upon' by other communities.

6.6. 'Bride price' or paying a 'dowry' for the marriage of a son is the general custom among Scheduled Tribes, and this custom makes the marriage of a son more expensive than that of a daughter. The expenditure for a daughter's marriage and a son's marriage by the income groups among the respondents are shown in the following Tables 10 and 11 respectively.

Table 10. **Income Groups by Expenditure for a Daughter's Marriage** (Expenditure in Rupees)

Income in Rupees	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	19 82·6 (27·6)	4 17·4 (23·5)	—	—	23 (25·6)
100/- to 199/-	39 88·5 (56·6)	4 9·2 (23·5)	—	1 2·3 (100·0)	44 (48·9)
200/- to 299	6 66·7 (8·6)	1 1·1 (5·9)	2 2·2 (66·7)	—	9 (10·0)
300/- to 399/-	4 44·4 (5·7)	5 55·6 (29·4)	—	—	9 (10·0)
400/- to 499/-	—	1 100·0 (5·9)	—	—	1 (1.1)
500/- or more	1 33·4 (1·5)	1 33·3 (5·9)	1 33·3 (33·3)	—	3 (3·3)
No response	—	1 100·0 (5·9)	—	—	1 (1·1)
Total	69 76·7	17 18·9	3 3·3	1 1·1	90 (100·0)

Table 11. Income Groups by Expenditure for a Son's Marriage (Expenditure in Rupees)

Income in Rupees	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	13 50·0 (35·1)	11 42·2 (19·0)	1 3·9 (16·7)	3·9 (9·1)	26 (23·2)
100/- to 199/-	22 37·3 (59·5)	32 54·2 (55·2)	2 3·4 (33·3)	3 5·1 (27·2)	59 (52·7)
200/- to 299/-	1 9·1 (2·7)	7 63·6 (12·1)	1 9·1 (16·7)	2 18·2 (18·2)	11 (8·8)
300/- to 399/-	—	7 77·8 (12·0)	2 22·2 (33·3)	—	9 (8·0)
400/- to 499/-	1 33·3 2·7	—	—	2 66·7 (18·2)	3 (2·7)
500/- or more	—	1 33·3 (1·7)	—	2 66·7 (18·2)	3 (2·7)
No response	—	—	—	1 100·0 (9·1)	1 (0·9)
Total	37 33·0	58 51·8	6 5·6	11 9·8	112 (100.0)

It is seen that while only 1·1 per cent (1 out of 90) households spent Rs. 3,001/- or more for a daughter's marriage, 9·8 per cent (11 out of 112) households spent Rs. 3,001/- or more for a son's marriage. It is also seen that while 76·7 per cent (69 out of 90 households spent Rs. 1,000/- or below for a daughter's marriage, only 33·0 per cent (37 out of 112) households spent Rs. 1000/- or below for a son's marriage.

7. Politicization

Out of the 153 sample households in Attur taluk, 92·9 per cent (142) exercised their franchise in the last general elections, 3·8 per cent (6) did not and 3·3 per cent (5) were not eligible to vote. The hill Tribal population is more than that in the plain in this taluk and it is significant that nearly 93 per cent of the sample households voted in the elections. It is found that the heads of 10 sample households hold elected positions like members/presidents of Panchayat Boards and Temple Trustees. In the district as a whole, as it may be recalled, only 38 of the respondents hold elected positions.

8. Others

As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the interest of the Government in tribal welfare, it is found that only 11 per cent (17 out of 153) are aware and 89 per cent (136 out of 153) are not aware of the Government's interest in their welfare.

CHAPTER 4

METTUR TALUK

1. General

1.1. The area of Mettur taluk with its 776·72 Sq. Kms. accounts for 9·2 per cent of the total area of Salem district. This taluk accounts for 4·3 per cent and 8·5 percent of the district Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe population respectively as of 1971. Out of the Scheduled Tribes population in this taluk, 53·1 per cent (2,175 out of 4,097) live in the hill areas of the taluk (Palamalai).

1.2. The tribe-wise distribution of the population of Scheduled Tribes in this taluk is:

Malayali	3,476
Kurumbar (Kuruman)	502
Unclassified	119
Total	4,097

1.3. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Mettur taluk is 10·1 percent as compared to 32·5 per cent among Non-Scheduled Tribe population. This 10·1 per cent literacy among Scheduled Tribes in this taluk is very nearly the same as for the district as a whole (10·16 per cent) and as against 6·3 per cent in Attur taluk.

1.4. The important characteristics of the sample households in Mettur taluk are analysed in this Chapter.

2. Demographic

2.1. The size of the sample for this taluk is 25, which is 3 per cent of the total households of Scheduled Tribes in this taluk.

2.2. The heads of all the 25 households are males.

2.3. All the 25 sample households are Hindus by religious affiliation.

2.4. As for the marital status of the heads of the sample households, 22 are married living with spouse and 3 were married but are widowed or separated.

2.5. The age group of the heads of the sample households is shown below:

20 years of age or less	Nil	Nil
Between 21 and 30 years	4	16·0%
Between 31 and 40 years	6	24·0%
Between 41 and 50 years	10	40·0%
Between 51 and 60 years	3	12·0%
61 years of age or over	2	8·0%
Total	25	100·0

It is seen that 80 per cent (20 out of 25) are in the prime of life, between 21 and 50 years of age, and that 16 per cent (4 out of 25) are in the age group of 21 to 30 years of age.

2.6. The size of the sample households is:

5 members or less	15	60·0%
Between 6 and 10 members	10	40·0%
Total	25	100.0

The percentage of the sample households with 5 members or less in this taluk (60 per cent) is found to be less than that in Attur taluk (62·1 per cent) and in the district as a whole (63·4 per cent).

2.7. The size of the sample households by the occupational classification of the heads of the households is shown in the following Table 1 :

Table 1. **Occupational Classification By Size of Households**

Occupation	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	11 73·3 (73·3)	4 26·7 (40·0)	—	15 (60·0)
Farmer and Salaried employment	—	1 100·0 (10·0)	—	1 (4·0)
Farmer	4 44·4 (26·7)	5 55·6 (50·0)	— —	9 (36·0)
Total	15 60·0	10 40·0	—	25 (100·0)

It is seen that 73·3 per cent (11 out of 15) of the households with 5 members or less is accounted for by agricultural labourer households.

2.8. The size of the sample households by the income groups is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. **Income Groups By Size of Household**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	Total
Below 100/-	9	3	12
	75·0	25·0	
	(60·0)	(30·0)	(48·0)
100/- to 199/-	6	5	11
	54·5	45·5	
	(40·0)	(50·0)	(44·0)
200/- to 299/-	—	1	1
		100·0	
		(10·0)	(4·0)
500/- or more	—	1	1
		100·0	
		(10·0)	(4·0)
Total	15	10	25
	60·0	40.0	(100·0)

Note: There is no sample household in the income group of Rs. 300/- to 399/- and Rs. 400/- to 499/-.

It is seen that all the 15 households with 5 members or less are households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, and 8 of the 10 households with 6 members or more are also in the same income group.

3. Occupational and Economic

3.1. The occupational classification as may have been seen in Table 1 is :

Agricultural labourer	15	60%
Farmer & Salaried employment	1	4%
Farmer	9	36%
Total	25	100·0

It is seen that all the households are engaged in agricultural activities.

3.2. The occupational classification of households by the average monthly income is shown in Table 3.

Table 3. **Occupational Classification By Average Monthly Income** (Household Income in Rupees)

Occupation	Below 100/-	100/-to 199/-	200/-to 299/-	500/-or more	Total
Agricultural laboure	7 46·7 (58·3)	8 53·3 72·7)	—	—	15 (60.0)
Farmer & Salaried employment	1 100·0 (8·4)	—	—	—	1 (4.0)
Farmer	4 44·4 (33·3)	3 33·4 27·3)	1 11·1 (100·0	1 11·1 (100·0)	9 (36.0)
Total	12 48·0	11 44·0	1 4·0	1 4·0	25 (100.0)

Note: There is no sample household in the income group of Rs. 300/- to Rs. 399/- and Rs. 400/- to Rs. 499/-.

It is seen that the average monthly income of all the 15 agricultural labourer households is below Rs. 200/-, and 7 out of 9 (77·8 per cent) of the farmer households are also in the same income group.

3.3. The indebtedness of the sample households by occupational classification is shown in Table 4.

Table 4. **Occupation by Debt** (In Rupees)

Occupation	1000/- or below	1001/-to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	5,001/- or more	No debt	Total
Agricultural labourer	7 46·7 (50·0)	3 20·0 (100·0)	—	—	5 33·3 (83·3)	15 (60·0)
Farmer & Salaried employment	1 100·0 (7·1)	—	—	—	—	1 (4·0)
Farmer	6 66·7 (42·9)	—	1 11·1 (100·0)	1 11·1 (100·0)	1 11·1 (16·7)	9 (36·0)
Total	14 56·0	3 12·0	1 4·0	1 4·0	6 24·0	25 (100·0)

It is seen that 24 per cent (6 out of 25) households are free from debt as compared to the 22·2 per cent in Attur taluk and 21·7 per cent in the district as a whole. Only 33·3 per cent (5 out of 15 agricultural households are free from debt as compared to the 39·1 per cent in Attur taluk and 31·0 per cent in the district as a whole. Only 11·1 per cent (1 out of 9) farmer household is free from debt as compared to the 14·3 per cent in Attur taluk and 15·3 per cent in the district as whole.

3.4. The following Table shows the household income by debt:

Table 5. **Household Income by Debt** (In Rupees)

Average Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	5,001/- or more	No debt	Total
Below 100/-	10 83·3 (71·4)	—	—	—	2 16·7 (33·3)	12 (48·0)
100/- to 199/-	4 36·4 (28·6)	3 22·3 (100·0)	—	—	4 36·4 (66·7)	11 (44·0)
200/- to 299/-	—	—	1 100·0 (100·0)	—	—	1 (4·0)
500/- or more	—	—	—	1 100·0 (100·0)	—	1 (4·0)
Total	14 56·0	3 12·0	1 4·0	1 4·0	6 24·0	25 100·0

It is seen that 10 out of 12 households in the income group of below Rs. 100/- are in debt of Rs. 1,000/- or below, and the only household with the average monthly income of Rs. 500/- or more is in debt of Rs. 5,001/- or more.

3.5. The sources of borrowing by occupational classifiation of households is given in the Table below:

Table 6. **Occupation by Sources of Borrowing**

Occupation	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Government	Two sources	Total
Agricultural labourer	4 40·0 (44·4)	6 60·0 (85·7)	—	—	10 (52·6)
Farmer & Salaried employment	—	—	1 100·0 (50·0)	—	1 (5·3)
Farmer	5 62·5 (55·6)	1 12·5 (14·3)	1 12·5 (50·0)	1 12·5 (100·0)	8 (42·1)
Total	9 47·4	7 36·8	2 10·5	1 5·3	19 (100·0)

It is to be noted that not a single household has borrowed from any Bank, and only 2 households (10·5 per cent) have borrowed from the Government. It is seen that 36·8 per cent (7 out of 19) households have borrowed from moneylenders which is considerably less than that in Attur taluk (65·5 per cent) and in the district as a whole (62·1 per cent), while the 47·4 per cent) (9 out of 19) households which have borrowed from relatives/friends is much higher than in Attur taluk (13·4 per cent) and in the district as a whole (16·9 per cent). It was learnt during the field investigation that moneylenders are not interested in lending money to the households living in the Palamalai hill area for the reason that the income of those households is very low and the difficulty in reaching the hamlets/pockets of the tribal people.

3.6. The sources of borrowing by the income groups among the sample households are shown in the following Table:

Table 7. **Income Groups by Sources of Borrowing**

Income (In Rs.)	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Government	Two sources	Total
Below 100/-	6 60·0 (66·7)	3 30·0 (42·9)	1 10·0 (50·0)	—	10 (52·6)
100/- to 199/-	3 42·9 (33·3)	4 57·1 (57·1)	—	—	7 (36·8)
200/- to 299/-	—	—	1 100·0 (50·0)	—	1 (5·3)
500/- or more	—	—	—	1 100·0 (100·0)	1 (5·3)
Total	9 47·4	7 36·8	2 10·5	1 5·3	19 (100·0)

The only household that has borrowed from two sources is with the average monthly income of Rs. 500/- or more.

3.7. The purposes of borrowing by the various occupational groups are shown in the Table below:

Table 8. **Occupation By Purposes of Borrowing**

Occupation	Family maintenance	Agricultural Purpose	Total
Agricultural labourer	10 100·0 (66·7)	—	10 (52·6)
Farmer & Salaried employment	—	1 100·0 (25·0)	1 (5·3)
Farmer	5 75·0 (33·3)	3 25·0 (75·0)	8 (42·1)
Total	15 78·9	4 21·1	19 (100·0)

It is seen that 78·9 per cent (15 out of 19) have borrowed for family maintenance in this taluk as compared to the 63·8 per cent in Attur taluk and 63·4 per cent in the district as a whole.

3.8. The purposes of borrowing by the different income groups are shown in the following Table 9.

Table 9. **Income Groups By Purposes of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Family maintenance	Agricultural Purpose	Total
Below 100/-	9 90·0 (60·0)	1 10·0 (25·0)	10 (52·6)
100/- to 199/-	6 85·7 (40·0)	1 14·3 (25·0)	7 (36·8)
200/- to 299/-	—	1 100·0 (25·0)	1 (5·3)
500/- or more	—	1 100·0 (25·0)	1 (5·3)
Total	15 78·9	4 21·1	19 (100.0)

It is seen that all the 15 households which have borrowed for family maintenance are with in the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-.

4. Housing and Medical

4.1. Out of the 25 sample households in this taluk 22 (88 per cent) live in their own huts and the other 3 live in rented or rent-free huts, and among the 22 households living in their own huts, only 9 (41 per cent) have 'patta' for the land on which they have put up the huts.

4.2. The available water, from near or far, is used for all purposes.

4.3. As for the distance of the nearest Primary Health Centre/Clinic, it is less than ½ mile for 5 respondents and over 2 miles for the other 20 respondents. The common diseases, according to the respondents, are common cold and fever, whoop-

ing cough and small pox among children and Malaria among the adults. Out of the 25 respondents, 12 stated that they take the children, when they get sick, to the Primary Health Centre/Clinic, 11 answered in the negative and 2 households do not have children.

5. Literacy and Education

5.1. Out of the 25 respondents, 5 (20 per cent) are literates and the remaining 20 (80 per cent) are illiterates. As for the educational level of the 5 literates, it is found that 2, 2, and 1 have studied upto the primary, middle and high school levels respectively.

5.2. According to all the 25 respondents, the Primary school is less than ½ mile and the High school over 2 miles.

5.3. As for the awareness of the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes, 7 (28 per cent) answered in the affirmative and the other 18 (72 per cent) answered in the negative.

6. Social

6.1. As for the tribe-wise distribution of the 25 sample households, it is found that all the 25 respondents belong to the Malayali Tribe.

6.2. **Inter-dining between the members of the various Tribes**

Yes	Nil
No	24
Don't know	1
Total	25

Marriage between the members of the various Tribes

Yes	Nil
No	10
Don't know	14
No response	1
Total	25

6.3. Inter-dining and Inter-marriage between the members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes

Yes	Nil
No	24
Don't know	Nil
No response	1
Total	25

6.4. Inter-dining and Inter-marriage between the members of Scheduled Tribes and 'Backward Classes'

Inter-dining		Inter-marriage	
Yes	24	Yes	Nil
No	Nil	No	24
No response	1	No response	1
Total	25	Total	25

6.5. As for the social disabilities, one answered in the affirmative, 9 in the negative and 15 did not know.

6.6. The expenditure for a daughter's marriage and a son's marriage by the income groups among the respondents are given in the following Tables 10 and 11.

Table 10. **Income Groups By Expenditure for a Daughter's Marriage** (Expenditure in Rupees)

Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000	Total
Below 100/-	8 88·9 (53·4)	1 11·1 (33·4)	9 (50·0)
100/- to 199/-	6 85·7 (40·0)	1 14·3 (33.3)	7 (39·0)
200/- to 299/-	—	1 100·0 (33·3)	1 (5·5)
500/- or more	1 100·0 (6·6)	—	1 (5·5)
Total	15 83·3	3 16·7	18 (100·0)

Note : Only 18 of the 25 sample households have daughters.

Table 11. Income Groups by Expenditure for a Son's Marriage (Expenditure in Rupees)

Income (In Rs.)	1000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	2 22·2 (66·7)	7 77·8 (53·9)	—	—	9 (45·0)
100/- to 199/-	1 11·1 (33·3)	5 55·6 (38·5)	3 33·3 (100·0)	—	9 (45·0)
200/- to 299/-	—	—	—	1 100·0 (100·0)	1 (5·0)
500/- or more	—	1 100·0 (7·6)	—	—	1 (5·0)
Total	3 15·0	13 65·0	3 15·0	1 5·0	20 (100·0)

Among the Scheduled Tribes the marriage of a son is more expensive than that of a daughter, probably because of the 'bride price' (dowry). It is seen that all the 18 sample households have spent Rs. 2,000/- or less for their daughters' marriage, while 20 per cent (4 out of 20) households have spent more than Rs. 2,000/- for their sons' marriage.

7. Politicization

Out of the 25 sample households in Mettur taluk, 24 exercised their franchise in the last general elections and 1 was not eligible. There is none among the sample households holding any elected positions.

8. Others

As for the awareness on the part of the sample households about the Government's interest in tribal welfare, 22 answered in the negative, while 3 answered in the affirmative.

CHAPTER 5

NAMAKKAL TALUK

1. General

1.1. The area of Namakkal taluk with its 1,767·75 Sq. Kms. accounts for 20·9 per cent of the total area of Salem district. This taluk accounts for 17·1 per cent and 16·0 per cent of the district Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe population respectively, as of 1971. Out of the Scheduled Tribes population in this taluk, 90·8 per cent (14,653 or 2,931 households) live in the hill areas (Kolli Hills).

1.2. The tribe-wise distribution of the population of Scheduled Tribes in this taluk is:

Malayali	16,130
Sholaga	8
Koraga	4
Unclassified	2
Total	16,144

1.3. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Namakkal taluk is 15·2 per cent as compared to 31·4 per cent among Non-Scheduled Tribe population. This 15·2 per cent of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Namakkal taluk is higher than that for the district as a whole (10·16 per cent).

1.4. The important characteristics of the sample households in Namakkal taluk are analysed in this Chapter.

2. Demographic

2.1. The size of the sample households for this taluk is 97, which is 3 per cent of the total households of Scheduled Tribes in this taluk.

2.2. The heads of 89 sample households are males and those of 8 households are females.

2.3. As for the religious composition of the sample households, 96 are Hindus and 1 Christian.

2.4. As for the marital status of the sample households, 2 are unmarried, 80 (82·4 per cent) are married and living with spouse, and 15 (15·5 per cent) were married but separated or widowed.

2.5. The age group of the heads of the sample households is shown below:

20 years and below	Nil	
Between 21 and 30 years	18	18·5%
Between 31 and 40 years	41	42·2%
Between 41 and 50 years	20	20·6%
Between 51 and 60 years	12	12·4%
61 years of age or over	6	6·3%
Total	97	100·0

It is seen that those in the prime of life, between 21 and 50 years of age, account for 81·3 per cent (79 out of 97) and those between 21 and 30 years of age constitute 18·5 per cent (18 out of 97).

2.6. The size of the sample households is shown below:

5 members or less	72	74·2%
Between 6 and 10 members	21	21·6%
11 members or more	4	4·2%
Total	97	100·0

The percentage of households with 5 members or less in Namakkal taluk is higher than that in Mettur taluk (60·6 per cent), in Attur taluk (62·1 per cent) and in the district as a whole (63·4 per cent).

2.7. The size of the sample households by the occupational classification of the heads of the households is shown in the following Table:

Table 1. **Occupational Classification by Size of Households**

Occupation	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	41 89·1 (56·9)	4 8·7 (19·0)	1 2·2 (25·0)	46 (47·4)
Farmer and Salaried employment	1 20·0 (1·4)	4 80·0 (19·0)	—	5 (5·2)
Farmer	28 66·7 (38·9)	12 28·5 (57·2)	2 4·8 (50·0)	42 (43·3)
Salaried employment	2 66·7 (2·8)	1 33·3 (4·8)	—	3 (3·1)
Any other	—	—	1 100·0 (25·0)	1 (1·0)
Total	72 74·2	21 21·6	4 4·2	97 (100·0)

It is seen that 74·2 per cent (72 out of 97) households have 5 members or less, while 89·1 per cent (41 out of 46) agricultural labourer households have 5 members or less. Among the 42 farmer households, 14 (33·3 per cent) have 6 members or more.

2.8. The size of the sample households by income groups is shown in the following Table:

Table 2. **Income Groups by Size of Household**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Below 100/-	22	3	—	25
	88·0	12·0		
	(30·6)	(14·3)		(25·8)
100/- to 199/-	35	3	—	38
	92.1	7·0		
	(48·6)	(14·3)		(39·2)
200/- to 299/-	9	3	3	15
	60·0	20·0	20·0	
	(12·5)	(14·3)	(75·0)	(15·5)
300/- to 399/-	3	6	1	10
	30.0	60·0	10·0	
	(4.2)	(28·6)	(25·0)	(10·2)
400/- to 499/-	1	2	—	3
	33·3	66·7		
	(1·3)	(9·5)		(3·1)
500/- or more	2	4	—	6
	33·3	66·7		
	(2·8)	(19·0)		(6·2)
Total	72	21	4	97
	74·2	21·6	4·2	(100·0)

It is seen that 93·7 per cent (57 out of 63) households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- have 5 members or ess in the household, while 79·2 per cent (57 out of 72) of all the households with 5 members or less are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-.

3. Occupational and Economic

3.1. The occupational classification is:

Agricultural labourer	46	47·4%
Farmer and Salaried employment	5	5·2%
Farmer	42	43·3%
Salaried employment	3	3·1%
Any other	1	1·0%
Total	97	100·0

It is seen that 95·9 per cent (93 out of 97) households are in agricultural activities.

3.2. As for the occupational classification of households by average monthly income groups, it is seen that 95·7 per cent (44 out of 46) agricultural labourer households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, and that 42·8 per cent (18 out of 42) farmer households are also in the same income group. Out of the 6 households with the average monthly income of Rs. 500/- or more, 4 are farmer households, as may be seen n Table 3.

Table 3. **Occupation by Income** (Income in Rupees)

Occupation	Below 100/-	100/- to 199/-	200/- to 299/-	300/- to 399/-	400/- to 499/-	500/- or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	21 45·7 (84·0)	23 50·0 (60·5)	2 4·3 (13·3)	—	—	—	46 (47·4)
Farmer and Salaried employment	—	—	2 40·0 (13·3)	1 20·0 (10·0)	1 20·0 (33·3)	1 20·0 (16·7)	5 (5·2)
Farmer	3 7·0 (12·0)	15 35·7 (39·5)	9 21·4 (60·0)	9 21·4 (90·0)	2 4·8 (66·7)	4 9·5 (66·6)	42 (43·2)
Salaried employment	1 33·3 (4·0)	—	1 33·3 (6·7)	—	—	1 33·4 (16·7)	3 (3·1)
Any other	—	—	1 100·0 (6·7)	—	—	—	1 (1·0)
Total	25 25·8	38 39·2	15 15·5	10 10·3	3 3·0	6 6·2	97 (100·0)

3.3. Occupational classification by debt is shown in the Table below:

Table 4. **Occupation by Debt** (In Rupees)

Occupation	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2000/-	2001/- to 3000/-	3001/- to 4000/-	4001/- to 5000/-	5001/- or more	No debt	Total
Agricultural labourer	21	6	2	1	3	1	12	46
	45·7	13·0	4·3	2·2	6·5	2·2	26·1	
	(63·7)	(31·6)	(20·0)	(50·0)	(42·9)	(16·7)	(60·0)	(47·4)
Farmer and Salaried employment	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	5
	20·0	20·0	40·0			20·0		
	(3·0)	(5·3)	(20·0)			(16·7)		(5·2)
Farmer	10	12	6	1	4	4	5	42
	23·8	28·6	14·3	2·4	9·5	9·5	11·9	
	(30·3)	(63·2)	(60·0)	(50·0)	(57·1)	(66·6)	(25·0)	(43·3)
Salaried employment	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
	33·3						66·7	
	(3·0)						(10·0)	(3·1)
Any other	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
							100·0	
					—		(5·0)	(1·0)
Total	33	19	10	2	7	6	20	97
	34·0	19·6	10·3	2·1	7·2	6·2	20·6	100·0

It is seen that only 20·6 per cent (20 out of 97) households are free from debt as compared to 24·0 per cent in Mettur taluk, 22·2 per cent in Attur taluk and 21·7 per cent in the district as a whole. It is also seen that only 26·1 per cent (12 out of 46) and 11·9 per cent (5 out of 42) of the agricultural labourer and farmer households respectively are free from debt. Among the agricultural labourer and farmer households, 8·7 per cent (4 out of 46) and 19 per cent (8 out of 42) respectively are indebted to Rs. 5,001/- or more. It was noted earlier that 90·8 per cent of the tribal population of this taluk live in that portion of the Kolli Hills in this taluk. It is to be mentioned that Kolli Hills in both Namakkal taluk and Rasipuram taluk are covered by one of the two Integrated Tribal Development Blocks in the District, or for that matter, in the State as a whole.

3.4. The following Table shows the Household income by debt:

Table 5. **Household Income by Debt** (In Rupees)

Average Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1000/- or below	1001/- to 2000/-	2001/- to 3000/-	3001/- to 4000/-	4001/- to 5000/-	5001/- or more	No debt	Total
Below 100/-	15 60·0 (45·4)	2 8·0 (10·5)	1 4·0 (10·0)	1 4·0 (50·0)	1 4·0 (14·3)	—	5 20·0 (25·0)	25 (25·8)
100/- to 199/-	12 31·6 (36·4)	11 28·9 (57·9)	1 2·6 (10·0)	—	2 5.3 (28·5)	2 5·3 (33·3)	10 26·3 (50·0)	38 (39·2)
200/- to 299/-	4 26·7 (12·1)	3 20·0 (15·8)	3 20·0 (30·0)	—	1 6·6 (14·3)	—	4 26·7 (20·0)	15 (15·5)
300/- to 399/-	2 20·0 (6·1)	1 10·0 (5·3)	4 40·0 (40·0)	1 10·0 (50·0)	1 10·0 (14·3)	1 10·0 (16·7)	—	10 (10·2)
400/- to 499/-	—	—	—	—	2 66·7 (28·6)	1 33·3 (16·7)	—	3 (3·1)
500/- or more	—	2 33·3 (10·5)	1 16·7 (10·0)	—	—	2 33·3 (33·3)	1 16·7 (5·0)	6 (6·2)
Total	33 34·0	19 19·6	10 10·3	2 2·1	7 7·2	6 6·2	20 20·6	97 (100·0)

Only 23·8 per cent (15 out of 63) households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- are free from debt, and 2 households in that income group are indebted to Rs. 5,001/- or more. It is also seen that 81·8 per cent (27 out of 33) households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- are indebted to Rs. 1,000/- or below.

3.5. The sources of borrowing for the various occupational groups are shown below:

Table 6.

Occupation by Sources of Borrowing

Occupation	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Bank	Govern- ment	Two sour- ces	Three sources	Total
Agricultural labourer	7	21	—	4	2	—	34
	20·5	61·8		11·8	5·9		
	(58·3)	(60·0)		(36·4)	(14·3)		(44·2)
Farmer and Salaried employment	1	1	—	1	1	1	5
	20·0	20·0		20·0	20·0	20·0	
	(8·3)	(2·9)		(9·1)	(7·1)	(50·0)	(6·5)
Farmer	4	12	3	6	11	1	37
	10·8	32·4	8·2	16·2	29·7	2·7	
	(33·4)	(34·2)	(100·0)	(54·5)	(78·6)	(50·0)	(48·0)
Salaried employment	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
		100.0					
		(2.9)					(1·3)
Total	12	35	3	11	14	2	77
	15·6	45·4	3·9	14·3	18·2	2·6	(100·0)

On the whole, 45·4 per cent have borrowed from moneylenders and only 3·9 per cent (3 out of 77) and 14·3 per cent (11 out of 77) of the households have borrowed from Banks and the Government respectively.

3.6. The sourees of borrowing by the households in the various income groups are shown in the Table below:

Table 7. **Income Groups By Sources of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Bank	Govern-ment	Two Sources	Three Sources	Total
Below 100/-	5 25·0 (41·7)	12 60·0 (34·2)	—	2 10·0 (18·2)	1 5·0 (7·2)	—	20 (26·0)
100/- to 199/-	4 14·3 (31·3)	17 60·7 (48·6)	—	4 14·3 (36·3)	3 10·7 (21·4)	—	28 (36·4)
200/- to 299/-	2 18·2 (16·7)	3 27·3 (8·6)	2 18·2 (66·7)	1 9·0 (9·1)	3 27·3 21·4)	—	11 (14·2)
300/- to 399/-	1 10·0 (8·3)	2 20·0 (5·7)	—	2 20·0 (18·2)	3 30·0 (21·4)	2 20·0 (100·0)	10 (13·0)
400/- to 499/-	—	1 33·4 (2·9)	—	1 33·3 (9·1)	1 33·3 (7·1)	—	3 (3·9)
500/- or more	—	—	1 20·0 (33·3)	1 20·0 (9·1)	3 60·0 (21·4)	—	5 (6·5)
Total	12 15·6	35 45·4	3 3·9	11 14·3	14 18·2	2 2·6	77 (100·0)

It is seen that among the 48 households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, 29 (60·4 per cent) and 6 (12·5 per cent) have borrowed from moneylenders and the Government respectively.

3.7. The purposes of borrowing by the various occupational groups are shown below :

Table 8. **Occupation By Purposes of Borrowing**

Occupation	Family Maintenance	Repay old debt	Construct house	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Total
Agricultural labourer	30 88·3 (62·5)	—	2 5·9 (40·0)	1 2·9 (6·3)	1 2·9 (16·7)	34 (44·2)
Farmer and Salaried employment	2 40·0 (4·2)	—	—	3 60·0 (18·7)	—	5 (6·5)
Farmer	15 40·5 (31·3)	2 5·4 (100·0)	3 8·2 (60·0)	12 32·4 (75·0)	5 13·5 (83·3)	37 (48·0)
Salaried employment	1 100·0 (2·0)	—	—	—	—	1 (1·3)
Total	48 62·4	2 2·6	5 6·4	16 20·8	6 7·8	77 (100·0)

It is to be noted that not a single household in Namakkal taluk has borrowed to meet marriage expenditure. It is seen that 62·4 per cent (48 out of 77) households have borrowed for family maintenance, while 88·3 per cent (30 out of 34) agricultural labourer households have borrowed for that purpose.

3.8. The purposes of borrowing by the different income groups are shown in the following Table:

Table 9. **Income Groups By Purposes of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Family maintenance	Repay old debt	Construct house	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Total
Below 100/-	17	—	1	1	1	20
	85·0		5·0	5·0	5·0	
	(35·4)		(20·0)	(6·3)	(16·6)	(26.6)
100/- to 199/-	19	—	3	5	1	28
	67·8		10·7	17·9	3·6	
	(39·6)		(60·0)	(31·2)	(16·6)	(36.4)
200/- to 299/-	5	1	—	4	1	11
	46·5	9·1		36·3	9·1	
	(10·4)	(50·0)		(25·0)	(16·6)	(14.2)
300/- to 399/-	4	1	1	2	2	10
	40·0	10·0	10·0	20.0	20·0	
	(8·3)	(50·0)	(20·0)	(12.5)	(32·6)	(13.0)
400/- to 499/-	—	—	—	3	—	3
	—	—	—	100·0	—	
	—	—	—	(18·7)	—	(3·9)
500/- or more	3	—	—	1	1	5
	60·0	—	—	20·0	20·0	
	(6·3)	—	—	(6·3)	(16·6)	(6.5)
Total	48	2	5	16	6	77
	62·4	2·6	6·4	20·8	7·8	(100·0)

It is seen that 75 per cent (36 out of 48) households which have borrowed for family maintenance are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, and it is also seen that from the same income group, 37·5 per cent (6 out of 16) have borrowed for agricultural purposes.

4. Housing and Medical

4.1. Out of the 97 sample households in this taluk, 90 (92·8 per cent) have their own huts and the other 7 live in rented or rent-free huts. Only 47 of the 90 (52·3 per cent) who live in their own huts have 'Patta' for the land on which they have constructed their huts.

4.2. The same available water, from near or far, is used for all purposes.

4.3. The distance of the nearest Primary Health Centre/ Clinic is shown below:

Less than ½ mile	2	2·1%
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	4	4·1%
Between 1 mile and 1½ miles	12	12·4%
Between 1½ miles and 2 miles	3	3·1%
Over 2 miles	76	78·3%
Total	97	100·0

It is found that 69 (71·1 per cent) households take their children, when they get sick, to the Primary Health Centre/Clinic, 2 do not take the children to the P.H.C. / Clinic and 26 do not have young children. The common diseases, according to the respondents, are common cold and fever, chicken pox, dysentery, whooping cough and dental trouble among children and venereal diseases, asthma, typhoid, dental trouble and piles among adults.

5. Literacy and Education

5.1. Out of the 97 sample households only the heads of 39 (40·2 per cent) are literates, and this percentage is higher than the percentage of literates among the sample households in Mettur taluk (20·2 per cent), in Attur taluk (18·3 per cent) and in the

district as a whole (23·4 per cent). The educational level of the literates is shown below:

Primary school		17	43.5%
Middle school		10	25.6%
High school		11	28.2%
College		1	2.7%
	Total	39	100.0

5.2. According to the respondents, the distance of the nearest school is shown below:

	Primary School		High School	
Less than ½ mile	95	97·9%	4	4.1%
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	2	2·1%	20	20·6%
Over 2 miles	Nil	Nil	73	75·3%
Total	97	100·0	97	100·0

5.3. As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes, only 36·1 per cent (35 out of 97) are aware, 59·8 per cent (58 out of 97) are not aware and 4 did not respond.

6. Social

6.1. All the 97 sample households in this taluk belong to the Malayali tribe.

6.2. Inter-dining and inter-marriage among members of different tribes:

	Inter-dining			Inter-marriage	
Yes	1	1·0%	Yes	Nil	Nil
No	23	23·7%	No	34	35·1%
Don't know	73	75·3%	Don't know	63	64·9%
Total	97	100·0		97	100·0

6.3. Inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes:

Inter-dining			Inter-marriage		
Yes	Nil		Yes	Nil	
No	97	100·0%	No	97	100·0%
Total	97	100·0		97	100·0

6.4. Inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of Scheduled Tribes and 'Backward Classes':

Inter-dining			Inter-marriage		
Yes	97	100·0%	Yes	Nil	Nil
No	Nil	Nil	No	97	100·0%
Total	97	100·0		97	100·0

6.5. As for social disabilities, 1 answered in the affirmative, 55 in the negative, 38 did not know and 3 did not respond.

6.6. A son's marriage is more expensive than that of a daughter, probably because of the 'bride price' (dowry). The marriage expenditure by the different income groups for the marriage of a daughter and a son are shown in Tables 10 and 11 respectively.

Table 10. **Income Groups By Expenditure for a Daughter's Marriage** (Expenditure in Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1000/- or below	1001/- to 2000/-	2001/- to 3000/-	3001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	6 85·7 (21·4)	1 14·3 (8·3)	—	—	7 (16·7)
100/- to 199/-	11 64·7 (35·7)	7 36·3 (58·3)	—	—	18 (40·5)
200/- to 299/-	4 66·7 (14·3)	2 33·3 (16·7)	—	—	6 (14·3)
300/- to 399/-	5 100·0 (17·8)	—	—	—	5 (11·9)
400/- to 499/-	1 100·0 (3·6)	—	—	—	1 (2·3)
500/- or more	2 33·3 (7·2)	2 33·3 (16·7)	1 16·7 (100·0)	1 16·7 (100·0)	6 (14·3)
Total	29 66·7	12 28·5	1 2·4	1 2·4	43 (100·0)

Table 11. **Income Groups By Expenditure for a Son's Marriage** (Expenditure in Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1000/- or below	1001/- to 2000/-	2001/- to 3000/-	3001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	—	8 88·9 (25·0)	—	1 11·1 (8·3)	9 (15·8)
100/- to 199/-	2 7·7 (100·0)	17 65·4 (53·0)	6 23·0 (54·5)	1 3·9 (8·3)	26 (45·6)
200/- to 299/-	—	3 33·3 (9·4)	2 22·2 (18·2)	4 44·5 (33·4)	9 (15·8)
300/- to 399/-	—	—	2 50·0 (18·2)	2 50·0 (16·7)	4 (7·0)
400/- to 499/-	—	2 66·7 (6.3)	—	1 33·3 (8·3)	3 (5·3)
500/- or more	—	2 33·3 (6·3)	1 16·7 (9·1)	3 50·0 (25·0)	6 (10·5)
Total	2 3·5	32 56·2	11 19·3	12 21·0	57 (100·0)

It is seen that while 66·7 per cent (29 out of 43) households had spent less than Rs. 1,000/- for a daughter's marriage, only 3·5 per cent (2 out 57) have spent that amount for a son's marriage. Further, 21·0 per cent (12 out of 57) have spent more than Rs. 3,001/- for a son's marriage, while only 2·4 per cent (1 out of 43) have spent that much amount for a daughter's marriage.

7. Politicization

It is found that 89 (91·7 per cent) voted in the last general elections, 3 did not vote and 5 were not eligible. Out of the 97 respondents in this taluk, 7 (7·2 per cent) hold elected positions like members/presidents of Panchayat Boards and Temple Trustees.

8. Others

As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the Government's interest in tribal welfare, 43 (44·3 per cent) are aware, and 54 (55·7 per cent) are not aware of the Government's interest in their welfare.

CHAPTER 6

OMALUR TALUK

1. General

1.1. The area of Omalur taluk with its 666·5 sq. kms. accounts for 7·9 per cent of the total area of Salem district. This taluk accounts for 3 per cent and 23·7 per cent of the district Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe population respectively, as of 1971. All the 2,828 members of Scheduled Tribes (566 households) live in the plain areas of the taluk.

1.2. The tribe-wise distribution of the population of Scheduled Tribes in this taluk is:

Malayali	2,472
Irular	173
Kurumbar (Kuruman)	110
Pulayan	1
Unclassified	72
Total	2,828

1.3. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Omalur taluk is 8·5 per cent as compared to the 23·7 per cent among Non-Scheduled Tribe in the taluk, and this percentage is less than the percentage of 10·16 per cent of literacy in the district as a whole among Scheduled Tribes.

1.4. The important characteristics of the sample households in Omalur taluk are analysed in this Chapter.

2. Demographic

2.1. The size of the sample households for this taluk is 17, which is 3 per cent of the total households of Scheduled Tribes (566) in this taluk.

2.2. The heads of all the 17 sample households are males.

2.3. All the 17 sample households are Hindus by religious affiliation.

2.4. As for the marital status of the heads of the sample households, it is found that 16 are married and living with spouse, while 1 was married but widowed.

2.5. The age group of the heads of the sample households is shown below:

20 years or below	Nil	Nil
Between 21 and 30 years	3	17·6%
Between 31 and 40 years	4	23·5%
Between 41 and 50 years	2	11·8%
Between 51 and 60 years	3	17·6%
61 years or over	5	29·5%
Total	17	100·0

It is seen that 52·9 per cent (9 out of 17) are in the prime of life, between 21 and 50 years of age, while 17·6 per cent (3 out of 17) are between 21 and 30 years of age.

2.6. The size of the sample households is as follows:

5 members or less	7	41·2%
Between 6 and 10 members	9	52·9%
11 members or more	1	5·9%
Total	17	100·0

A little more than half of the sample households have between 6 and 10 members, while in the district as a whole, households having between 6 and 10 members accounted for only 33·9 per cent.

2.7. The size of the sample households by occupational classification is shown in the Table below:

Table 1. **Occupational Classification By Size of Households**

Occupation	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	7 53·8 (100·0)	6 46·2 (66·7)	—	13 (76·5)
Farmer	—	3 75·0 (33·3)	1 25·0 (100·0)	4 (23·5)
Total	7 41·2	9 52·9	1 5·9	17 (100·0)

It is seen that the only household having 11 members or more is that of a farmer, while among the households having 6 to 10 members, 66·7 per cent and 33·3 per cent are accounted for by the agricultural labourer and farmer households respectively.

2.8. The size of the sample households in the different income groups is shown in the Table below :

Table 2. **Income Groups By Size of Households**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members members or more	Total
Below 100/-	6 75·0 (85·7)	2 25·0 (22·2)	—	8 (47·11)
100/- to 199/-	1 16·7 (14·3)	5 83·3 (55·6)	—	6 (35·3)
200/- to 299/-	—	2 66·7 (22·2)	1 33·3 (100·0)	3 (17·6)
Total	7 41·2	9 52·9	1 5·9	17 (100·0)

It is seen that there is not a single household in the sample of this taluk with the average monthly income of Rs. 300/- or more. The only farmer household having 11 members or more is seen to be in the average monthly income group of Rs. 200/- to Rs. 299/-. The average monthly income of 7 of the 9 households having 6 to 10 members is below Rs. 200/-.

3. Occupational and Economic

3.1. As for the occupation of the heads of the sample households, the agricultural labourer households account for 76·5 per cent (13 out of 17) and the farmer households account for 23·5 per cent (4 out of 17).

3.2. The average monthly income of the sample households in the different occupational classifications is given in the following Table:

Table 3. **Occupation By Income** (Income in Rupees)

Occupation	Below 100/-	100/- to 199/-	200/- to 299/-	Total
Agricultural labourer	8 61·5 (100·0)	4 30·8 (66·7)	1 7·7 (33·3)	13 (76·5)
Farmer	—	2 50·0 (33·3)	2 50·0 (66·7)	4 (23.5)
Total	8 47·1	6 35·3	3 17·6	17 (100·0)

It is seen that 92·3 per cent (12 out of 13) of the agricultural labourer households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-.

3.3. The indebtedness of the sample households by occupational classification is shown in the following Table:

Table 4. **Occupation by Debt** (In Rupees)

Occupation	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	5,001/- or more	No debt	Total
Agricultural labourer	9 69·2 (100·0)	—	—	4 30·8 (100·0)	13 (76.5)
Farmer	—	3 75.0 (100.0)	1 25·0 (100·0)	—	4 (23.5)
Total	9 52·9	3 17·6	1 6·0	4 23·5	17 (100·0)

It is seen that only 30·8 per cent (4 out of 13) agricultural labourer households are free from debt, while the remaining households are indebted to Rs. 1,000/- or below. No farmer household is free from debt, while one of their households is indebted to Rs. 5,001/- or more.

3.4. The following Table shows the household income groups by their indebtedness

Table 5. **Household Income by Debt** (In Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	5,001/- or more	No debt	Total
Below 100/-	6 75·0 (66·7)	—	—	2 25·0 (50·0)	8 (42·1)
100/- to 199/-	3 50·0 (33·3)	2 33·3 (66·7)	—	1 16·7 (25·0)	6 (35·3)
200/- to 299/-	—	1 33·4 (33·3)	1 33.3 (100.0)	1 33·3 (25·0)	3 (17·6)
Total	9 52·9	3 17·6	1 6·0	4 23·5	17 (100·0)

It is seen that all the 9 households indebted to Rs. 1,000/- or below are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, and one farmer household with the average monthly income of Rs.200/- to Rs. 299/- is indebted to Rs. 5,001/- or more.

3.5. Occupational classification by sources of borrowing is shown in the Table below:

Table 6. **Occupation by Sources of Borrowing**

Occupation	Relatives/ Friends	Moneylender	Bank	Total
Agricultural labourer	5 55·5 (71·4)	4 44·5 (80·0)	—	9 (69·3)
Farmer	2 50.0 (28·6)	1 25·0 (20·0)	1 25·0 (100·0)	4 (30·7)
Total	7 53·9	5 38·5	1 7·6	13 (100·0)

It is noted that not a single household in this taluk has borrowed from the Government, and the only household that has borrowed from a Bank is that of a farmer. It is seen that 4 of the 5 households which have borrowed from moneylenders are those of agricultural labourers.

3.6. The sources of borrowing by the households in the different income groups may be seen in the following Table :

Table 7. **Income Groups by Sources of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Bank	Total
Below 100/-	3 50·0 (42·9)	3 50·0 (60·0)	—	6 (46·2)
100/- to 199/-	4 80·0 (57·1)	1 20·0 (20·0)	—	5 (38·5)
200/- to 299/-	—	1 50·0 (20·0)	1 50·0 (100·0)	2 (15·3)
Total	7 53·9	5 38·5	1 7·6	13 (100·0)

It is seen that the one farmer household which has borrowed from a Bank is with the average monthly income of Rs. 200/- to 299/-. It is noted that the 4 agricultural households which have borrowed from money-lnders are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-.

3.7. The purposes of borrowing by the different occupational categories are shown in the Table below:

Table 8. **Occupation by Purpose of Borrowing**

Occupation	Family maintenance	Agricultural purpose	Total
Agricultural labourer	9 100·0 (75·0)	—	9 (69·2)
Farmer	3 75·0 (25·0)	1 25·0 (100·0)	4 (30·8)
Total	12 92·4	1 7·6	13 (100·0)

It is seen that 92·4 per cent (12 out of 13) households have borrowed for family maintenance, and only one of the four farmer households has borrowed for agricultural purposes. It is to be noted that not a single household in this taluk has borrowed to meet marriage expenditure or to repay old debt.

3.8. The purposes of borrowing by the various income groups are shown in the Table below :

Table 9. **Income Groups by Purposes of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Family maintenance	Agricultural purpose	Total
Below 100/-	6 100·0 (50·0)	—	6 (46·1)
100/- to 199/-	5 100·0 (41·7)	—	5 (38·5)
200/- to 299/-	1 50·0 (8·3)	1 50·0 (100·0)	2 (15·4)
Total	12 92·4	1 7·6	13 (100·0)

It is seen that 91·7 per cent (11 out of 12) households which have borrowed for family maintenance are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- and, on the whole, 12 of the 13 households have borrowed for family maintenance.

4. Housing and Medical

4.1. Out of the 17 sample households in this taluk, 15 live in their own huts, 1 lives in a rent-free hut and 1 did not respond. Out of the 15 who live in their own huts, 9 do not have 'patta' for the land on which they have constructed their huts.

4.2. There are a few wells in this taluk with good water and the members of the Scheduled Tribes do not have any water problem either for drinking or for other purposes.

4.3. As for the distance of the nearest Primary Health Centre/Clinic, all the 17 respondents in this taluk stated that it is beyond 2 miles. It is found that out of the 14 households with children, 10 take their children, when they get sick, to the P.H.C./ Clinic and the other 4 do not. The common diseases, according to the respondents, are common cold and fever, chicken pox, dysentery and whooping cough among children and malaria and stomach trouble among adults.

5. Literacy and Education

5.1. Out of the 17 sample households, the heads of only 4 households are literates, and one of them has studied upto Primary school level and the other 3 upto Middle School level.

5.2. According to all the 17 respondents, the distance of the nearest Primary school is less than 1 mile and that of the High school is beyond 2 miles.

5.3. As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes, only 2 of the 17 respondents stated that they are aware of such provisions, and the 15 are not aware of such provisions.

6. Social

6.1. The tribe-wise composition of the 17 sample households in this taluk is 16 and 1 Malayali and Irular households respectively.

6.2. Inter-dining and inter-marriage among members of different tribes

Inter-dining			Inter-marriage		
Yes	3	17.6%	Yes	Nil	Nil
No	1	5·8%	No	9	52·9%
Don't know	12	70·8%	Don't know	8	47·1%
No esponse	1	5·8%			
'otal	17	100·0	Total	17	100·0

6.3. Inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes

Inter-dining			Inter-marriage		
Yes	Nil	Nil	Yes	Nil	Nil
No	17	100·0	No	17	100·0
Total	17	100·0	Total	17	100·0

6.4. Inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of Scheduled Tribes and 'Backward Classes'

Inter-dining			Inter-marriage		
Yes	17	100·0%	Yes	Nil	Nil
No	Nil	Nil	No	17	100·0%
Total	17	100·0%		17	100%

6.5. As for social disabilities, 3 answered in the negative, 12 did not know and 2 did not respond.

6.6. The marriage expenditure by the different income groups for the marriage of a daughter and for a son are shown in the following Tables 10 and 11 respectively.

Table 10. **Income Groups by Expenditure for a Daughter's Marriage**

(Expenditure in Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	Total
Below 100/-	4 80·0 (44·4)	1 20·0 (25·0)	5 (46·1)
100/- to 199/-	4 66·7 (44·4)	2 33·3 (50·0)	6 (38·5)
200/- to 299/-	1 50·0 (11·2)	1 50·0 (25·0)	2 (15·4)
Total	9 69·2	4 30·8	13 (100·0)

Table 11. **Income Groups by Expenditure for a Son's Marriage**
(Expenditure in Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2001/- to 3,000/-	3001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	3 42·9 (60·0)	3 42·9 (42·9)	1 14·2 (50·0)	—	7 (46.7)
100/- to 199/-	2 33·3 (40·0)	3 50·0 (42·9)	1 16·7 (50·0)	—	6 (40·0)
200/- to 299/-	—	1 50·0 (14·2)	—	1 50·0 (100·0)	2 (13·3)
Total	5 33·3	7 46·7	2 13·3	1 6·7	15 (100·0)

It is seen that 69·2 per cent (9 out of 13) households spent Rs. 1,000/- or below for a daughter's marriage while only 33·3 per cent (5 out of 15) households spent that much for a son's marriage. It is also seen that 20·0 per cent (3 out of 15) spent Rs. 2,001/- or more for a son's marriage. The marriage of a son is more expensive than that of a daughter. 'Bride-price' (dowry) is the custom among members of Scheduled Tribes.

7. Politicization

It is found that 10 of the 17 sample households (58·8 per cent) voted in the last general elections and the other 7 did not vote. It is also found that the heads of 2 out of the 17 sample households hold elected positions like members/presidents of Panchayat Boards and Temple trustees.

8. Others

As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the Government's interest in tribal welfare, only one of the 17 respondents answered in the affirmative, and the other 16 answered in the negative. It is significant to note in this context that all the members of Scheduled Tribes live in the plain areas of this taluk.

CHAPTER 7

RASIPURAM TALUK

1. General

1.1. The area of Rasipuram taluk with its 817·5 sq. kms. accounts for 9·7 per cent of the total area of Salem district. This taluk accounts for 17·7 per cent and 33·7 per cent of the district Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe population respectively, as of 1971. Out of the Scheduled Tribes population in this taluk, 54·6 per cent live in the hill areas of the taluk.

1.2. The tribe-wise distribution of the population of Scheduled Tribes is shown below:

Malayali	16,645
Irular	136
Kurumbar (Kuruman)	17
Koraga	7
Konda Reddi	1
Unclassified	3
Total	16,809

Out of the 16,809 Scheduled Tribes population, 16,778 (3356 households) live in the rural areas and 31 live in the urban areas of the taluk.

1.3. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Rasipuram taluk is 10·7 per cent as compared to the 33·7 per cent among Non-Scheduled Tribe in the taluk.

1.4. The important characteristics of the sample households in Rasipuram taluk are analysed in this Chapter.

2. Demographic

2.1. The size of the sample households in this taluk is 101, which is 3 per cent of the total households of Scheduled Tribes (3,356).

2.2. The heads of all the 101 sample households are males.

2.3. All the households in the sample are Hindus.

2.4. As for the marital status of the heads of the sample households, 93 (92·1 per cent) are married and are living with spouse, while the heads of 8 (7·9 per cent) households were married but are widowed or separated.

2.5. The age group of the heads of the sample households is shown below:

20 years or below	2	2·0%
Between 21 and 30 years	22	21·8%
Between 31 and 40 years	26	25·8%
Between 41 and 50 years	28	27·7%
Between 51 and 60 years	16	15·8%
61 years or over	7	6·9%
Total	101	100·0

It is seen that 75·3 per cent (76 out of 101) are in the prime of life, between 21 and 50 years of age, while 21·8 per cent (22 out of 101) are between 21 and 30 years of age.

2.6. The size of the sample households is as follows:

5 members or less	71	70·3%
Between 6 and 10 members	28	27·7%
11 members or more	2	2·0%
	101	100·0

2.7. The size of the sample households by occupational classification is shown in the Table below:

Table 1. **Occupational Classification by Size of Households**

Occupation	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	39	6	—	45
	86·7	13·3		
	(54·9)	(21·4)		(44·5)
Farmer and Salaried employment	4	1	—	5
	80·0	20·0		
	(5·6)	(3·6)		(5·0)
Farmer	27	21	2	50
	54·0	42·0	4·0	
	(38·0)	(75·0)	(100·0)	(49·5)
Salaried employment	1	—	—	1
	100·0			
	(1·5)			(1·0)
Total	71	28	2	101
	70·3	27·7	2·0	(100·0)

It is seen that 70·3 per cent of the households have 5 members or less, and 2 farmer households have 11 members or more. Out of the 71 households with 5 members or less, agricultural labourer households account for 54·9 per cent and out of the 45 agricultural labourer households, 86·7 per cent (39) have 5 members or less.

2.8. As for the size of the households in the different income groups, it is found that out of the 71 households with 5 members or less, 60 households (84·5 per cent) are households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- and out of the 28 households with 6 to 10 members, 17 (60·7 per cent) households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-. The average monthly income of the 2 farmer households with 11 members or more is between Rs. 300/- and 399/- as may be seen in the following Table.

Table 2. **Income Groups by Size of Households**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	5 members or less	6 to 10members	11 members or more	Total
Below 100/-	28	1	—	29
	96·6	3·4		
	(39·4)	(3·6)		(28·7)
100/- to 199/-	32	16	—	48
	66·7	33·3		
	(45·1)	(57·1)		(47·5)
200/- to 299/-	6	5	—	11
	54·5	45·5		
	(8·5)	(17·9)		(10·9)
300/- to 399/-	1	3	2	6
	16·7	50·0	33·3	
	(1·4)	(10·7)	(100·0)	(5·9)
400/- to 499/-	2	—	—	2
	100·0			
	(2·8)			(2·0)
500/- or more	2	3	—	5
	40·0	60·0		
	(2·8)	(10·7)		(5·0)
Total	71	28	2	101
	70·3	27·7	2·0	(100·0)

3. Occupational and Economic

3.1. The occupational classification of the sample households is given below:

Agricultural labourer	45	44·5%
Farmer and Salaried employment	5	5·0%
Farmer	50	49·5%
Salaried employment	1	1·0%
Total	101	100·0

It is seen that 99·0 per cent (100 out of 101) are engaged in agricultural activities.

3.2. The average monthly income of the sample households in the different occupational groups is given in the Table below:

Table 3. **Occupation by Income** (Income in Rupees)

Occupation	Below 100	100/- to 199/-	200/- to 299/-	300/- to 399/-	400/- to 499/-	500/- or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	22 48·9 (75·9)	22 48·9 (45·8)	1 2·2 (9·1)	—	—	—	45 (44·5)
Farmer and Salaried employment	—	2 50·0 (4·2)	2 50·0 (18·2)	—	—	1 (25·0) (20·0)	5 (5·0)
Farmer	7 14·0 (24·1)	23 46·0 (47·9)	8 16·0 (72·7)	6 12·0 (100·0)	2 4·0 (100·0)	4 8·0 (80·0)	50 (49·5)
Salaried employment	—	1 100·0 (2·1)	—	—	—	—	1 (1·0)
Total	29 28·7	48 47·5	11 10·9	6 5·9	2 2·0	5 5·0	101 (100·0)

It is seen that 97·8 per cent (44 out of 45) agricultural labourer households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, and 50·0 per cent of them (22) are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 100/-. It is also found that 60 per cent (30 out of 50) farmer households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, as also the one household in the category of salaried employment.

3.3. The indebtedness of the sample households by occupational classification is given in the following Table:

Table 4. **Occupation by Debt** (In Rupees)

Occupation	1000/- or below	1001/- to 2000/-	2001/- to 3000/-	3001/- to 4000/-	4001/- to 5000/-	5001/- or more	No debt	Total
Agricultural labourer	25 55·6 (54·3)	8 17·8 (47·1)	—	—	—	—	12 26·6 (52·3)	45 (44·5)
Farmer and Salaried employment	3 60·0 (6·5)	1 20·0 (5·8)	—	—	—	—	1 20·0 (4·3)	5 (5·0)
Farmer	17 34·0 (37·0)	8 16·0 (47·1)	5 10·0 (100·0)	1 2·0 (100·0)	3 6·0 (100·0)	6 12·0 (100·0)	10 20·0 (43·5)	50 (49·5)
Salaried employment	1 100·0 (2·2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (1.0)
Total	46 45·5	17 16·8	5 5·0	1 1·0	3 3·0	6 5·9	23 22·8	101 (100·0)

It is seen that only 22·8 per cent (23 out of 101) households are free from debt. It is also found that 73·4 per cent (33 out of 45) and 50 per cent (25 out of 50) of the agricultural labourer and farmer households respectively are indebted upto Rs. 2,000/-. The 6 households indebted to Rs. 5,001/- or more are farmer households.

3.4. As for the extent of indebtedness by the different income groups, it is found that 86·9 per cent (40 out of 46) households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- are indebted to Rs. 1,000/- or below, and that 92·0 per cent (21 out of 23) households with the average monthly income of Rs. 200/- are free from debt, as may be seen in the following Table:

Table 5. **Household Income by Debt** (In Rupees)

Average Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1000/- or below	1001/- to 2000/-	2001/- to 3000/-	3001/- to 4000/-	4001/- to 5000/-	5001/- or more	No debt	Total
Below 100/-	21 72·4 (45·7)	4 13·8 (23·5)	—	1 3.4 (100.0)	—	—	3 10·4 (13·1)	29 (28·7)
100/- to 199/-	19 39·5 (41·2)	7 14·6 (41·2)	2 4·2 (40·0)	—	1 2·1 (33·3)	1 2·1 (16·7)	18 37·5 (78·3)	48 (47·5)
200/- to 299/-	5 45·4 (10·9)	3 27·3 (17·6)	2 19·2 (40·0)	—	1 9·1 (33·3)	—	—	11 (10·9)
300/- to 399/-	—	1 16·7 (5·9)	1 16·7 (20·0)	—	1 16.7 (33·4)	2 33·2 (33·3)	1 16·7 (4·3)	6 (5·9)
400/- to 499/-	1 50·0 (2·2)	—	—	—	—	1 50·0 (16·7)	—	2 (2·5)
500/- or more	—	2 40·0 (11·8)	—	—	—	2 40·0 (33·3)	1 20·0 (4·3)	5 (5·0)
Total	46 45·5	17 16·8	5 5·0	1 1·0	3 3·0	6 5·9	23 22·8	101 (100·0)

3.5. The sources of borrowing for the different occupational groups are shown in the Table below:

Table 6. **Occupation by Sources of Borrowing**

Occupation	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Government	Two Sources	Total
Agricultural labourer	5 15·2 (41·7)	28 84.8 (47.5)	—	—	33 (42·3)
Farmer and Salaried employment	2 50·0 (16·6)	2 50.0 (3.4)	—	—	4 (5·1)
Farmer	5 12·5 (41·7)	28 70.0 (47.5)	2 5·0 (100·0)	5 12·5 (100·0)	40 (51·3)
Salaried employment	—	1 100·0 (1·6)	—	—	1 (1·3)
Total	12 15·4	59 75·7	2 2·5	5 6·4	78 (100·0)

It is seen that 75·7 per cent (59 out of 78) households have borrowed from moneylenders, and 47·5 per cent (28 out of 59) and 47·5 per cent (28 out of 59) of the households which have borrowed from money lenders are the households of agricultural labourers and farmers respectively. Only 2 out of the 40 households of the farmers (5·0 per cent) have borrowed from the Government and it is noted that not a single household has borrowed from any Bank. Next to the moneylenders, relatives/friends constitute the main source of borrowing.

3.6. The sources of borrowing for the different income groups among the sample households are shown in the Table below:

Table 7. **Income Groups by Sources of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Government	Two Sources	Total
Below 100/-	3 11·5 (25·0)	23 88·5 (39·0)	—	—	26 (33·3)
100/- to 199/-	5 16·7 (41·7)	24 80·0 (40·6)	—	1 3·3 (20.0)	30 (38·4)
200/- to 299/-	4 36·4 (33·3)	4 36·4 (6·8)	1 9·0 (50·0)	2 18·2 (40·0)	11 (14·2)
300/- to 399/-	—	4 80·0 (6·8)	1 20·0 (50·0)	—	5 (6·4)
400/- to 499/-	—	1 50·0 (1·7)	—	1 50·0 (20·0)	2 (2·6)
500/- or more	—	3 75·0 (5·1)	—	1 25·0 (20·0)	4 (5·1)
Total	12 15·4	59 75·7	2 2·5	5 6·4	78 (100·0)

It is seen that 79·6 per cent (47 out of 59) households which have borrowed from moneylenders are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, and it is also seen that even for the higher monthly income groups moneylender is the main, if not the only, source of borrowing.

3.7. As for the purposes of borrowing by the different occupational groups, it is seen that, on the whole, 57·7 per cent (45 out of 78) have borrowed for family maintenance. Among those who have borrowed for family maintenance, 48·9 per cent (22 out of 45) and 42·2 per cent (19 out of 45) households are those of agricultural labourers and farmers respectively, as may be seen in the following Table:

Table 8. **Occupation by Purposes of Borrowing**

Occupation	Family maintenance	Repay old debt	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Marriage expenditure	Total
Agricultural labourer	22 66·7 (48·9)	1 3·0 100·0)	3 9·1 (13·6)	—	7 21·2 100·0)	33 (42·3)
Farmer and Salaried employment	3 75·0 (6·7)	—	—	1 25·0 (33·2)	—	4 (5·1)
Farmer	19 47·5 (42·2)	—	19 47·5 (86·4)	2 5·0 (66·7)	—	40 (51·3)
Salaried employment	1 100·0 (2·2)	—	—	—	—	1 (1·3)
Total	45 57·7	1 1·3	22 28·2	3 3·8	7 9·0	78 (100·0)

3.8. The purposes of borrowing by the different income groups are shown in the Table below:

Table 9. **Income Groups by Purposes of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Family mainte-nance	Repay old debt	Agricul-tural purpose	Buy land	Marriage expendi-ture	Total
Below 100/-	15 57·7 (33·3)	1 3·9 (100·0)	4 15·3 (18·2)	1 3·9 (33·3)	5 19·2 (71·4)	26 (33·3)
100/- to 199/-	20 66·7 (44·4)	—	8 26·7 (36·4)	1 3·3 (33·3)	1 3·3 (14·3)	30 (38·4)
200/- to 299/-	6 54·5 (13·3)	—	4 36·4 (18·2)	—	1 9·1 (14·3)	11 (14·2)
300/- to 399/-	2 40·0 (4·4)	—	2 40·0 (9·1)	1 20·0 (33·3)	—	5 (6·4)
400/- to 499/-	1 50·0 (2·3)	—	1 50·0 (4·5)	—	—	2 (2·6)
500/- or more	1 25·0 (2·3)	—	3 75·0 (13·6)	—	—	4 (5·1)
Total	45 57·6	1 1·3	22 28·3	3 3·8	7 9·0	78 (100·0)

It is seen that 77·7 per cent (35 out of 45) of the households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- have borrowed for family maintenance, while 85·7 per cent (6 out of 7) of the same income group have borrowed for marriage expenditure. It is seen that even those in the higher income groups have borrowed for family maintenance.

4. Housing and Medical

4.1. Out of the 101 sample households, 90 live in their own huts, and among them only 25·6 per cent (23 out of 90) have 'patta' for the land on which they have constructed their huts.

4.2. It is found that water scarcity is very acute in this taluk, particularly in the Kolli Hills area in this taluk. Incidentally, Kolli Hills portion in this taluk also comes under the Integrated Tribal Development Project.

4.3. The distance of the nearest Primary Health Centre/ Clinic, according to all the respondents is beyond 2 miles. It is found that out of the 84 households with children, 72 (85·7 per cent) take their children, when they get sick, to the Clinic, despite the distance, and 17 households do not have young children. The common diseases, according to the respondents, are common cold and fever, chicken pox, whooping cough, dysentery, skin trouble and dental trouble among children and venereal diseases, malaria and dental trouble among adults.

5. Literacy and Education

5.1. Out of the 101 sample households, the heads of 20 (19·8 per cent) households are literates. The educational level of the 20 literates is shown below:

Primary school	14	70·0%
Middle school	3	15·0%
High school	2	10·0%
College	1	5·0%
Total	20	100·0

5.2. The distance of the nearest school, according to the respondents, is shown below:

	Primary school		High school	
Less than ½ mile	58	57.4%	Nil	Nil
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	41	40·6%	Nil	Nil
Over 2 miles	Nil		100	99·0%
No response	2	2·0%	1	1·0%
Total	101	100·0	101	100·0

5.3. As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes, 22 (21·8 per cent) answered in the affairmative, 74 (73·2 per cent) in the negative and 5 (5·0 per cent) did not respond.

6. Social

6.1. As for the tribe-wise composition of the sample households, it is found that 93 (92·1 per cent) belong to the Malayali Tribe and 8 (7·9 per cent) to the Irular Tribe.

6.2. Inter-dining and Inter-marriage among members of different Tribes

	Inter-dining		Inter-marriage	
Yes	11	10.9	Nil	Nil
No	30	29·7%	94	93·0%
Don't know	60	59·4%	7	7·0%
Total	101	100·0	101	100·0

6.3. Inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes

	Inter-dining		Inter-marriage	
Yes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
No	101	100·0	101	100·0
Total	101	100·0	101	100·0

6.4. Inter-dining and inter-marriage between membeɹs of Scheduled Tribes and 'Backward Classes'

	Inter-dining		Inter-marriage	
Yes	101	100·0	Nil	Nil
No	Nil	Nil	101	100·0
Total	101	100·0	101	100·0

6.5. As for social disabilities, 7 answered in the affirmative 76 in the negative, 17 did not know and 1 did not respond. None of the 7 respondents who answered in the affirmative was able to specify any particular social disability.

6.6. The marriage of a son is more expensive than that of a daughter among Scheduled Tribes, probably because of the 'bride price' (dowry) to be paid. It is found that among the respondents in the various income groups, 86·1 per cent (37 out of 43) spent Rs. 1,000/- or below for a daughter's marriage, while only 9·5 per cent (6 out of 63) spent Rs. 1,000/- or below for a son's marriage and those 6 households are found to be with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-. It is also found that 7 (11·1 per cent) spent more than Rs. 3,001/- for a son's marriage. The expenditure for a daughter's marriage and for a son's marriage in the various income groups is shown in Tables 10 and 11 respectively.

Table 10. **Income Groups by Expenditure for a Daughter's Marriage**
(Expenditure in Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	3001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	11 100·0 (29·7)	—	—	—	11 (25.6)
100/- to 199/-	21 84·0 (56·7)	4 16·0 (80·0)	—	—	25 (58.1)
200/- to 299/-	3 100·0 (8·2)	—	—	—	3 (7.0)
300/- to 399/;	2 66·7 (5·4)	—	—	1 33·3 (100·0)	3 (7.0)
400/- to 499/-	—	—	—	—	—
500/- or more	—	1 100·0 (20·0)	—	—	1 (2.5)
Total	37 86·1	5 11·5	—	1 2·3	43 (100·0)

Table 11. **Income Groups by Expenditure for a Son's Marriage**
(Expenditure in Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	5 41·7 (83·3)	6 50·0 (14·3)	1 8·3 (12·5)	—	12 (19·0)
100/- to 199/-	1 2·8 (16·7)	27 75·0 (64·3)	4 11·1 (50·0)	4 11·1 (57·1)	36 (57·1)
200/- to 299/-	—	5 71·4 (11·9)	2 28·6 (25·0)	—	7 (11·1)
300/- to 399/-	—	4 100·0 (9·5)	---	—	4 (6·4)
400/- to 499/-	—	—	—	1 100·0 (14·3)	1 (1·6)
500/- or more	—	—	1 33·3 (12·5)	2 66·7 (28·6)	3 (4·8)
Total	6 9·5	42 66·7	8 12·7	7 11·1	63 (100·0)

7. Politicization

It is found that out of the 101 respondents in this taluk 95 voted in the last general elections, 3 did not vote and 3 did not respond. It is also found that 5 respondents hold elected position like member/president of Panchayat Board/Temple trustees.

8. Others

As for the awareness on the part of the sample households about the Government's interest in tribal welfare, it is found that only 18·8 per cent (19 out of 101) are aware and 81·2 per cent (82 out of 101) are not aware of the Government's interest in tribal welfare. That portion of the Kolli Hills in this (Rasipuram) taluk comes under the Integrated Tribal Development Project.

CHAPTER 8

SALEM AND SANKARI TALUKS

1. General

1.1. As has been mentioned in para 2.12 of Section C in Chapter 1, the sample at 3 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes households to be drawn in Sankari taluk was only 3 and it was decided to merge the sample from Sankari taluk with that of the adjoining taluk of Salem. The area of Salem taluk with its 982·0 sq. kms. accounts for 11·6 per cent of the total area of Salem district, while Sankari with its area of 717·2 sq. kms. accounts for 8·5 per cent of the area of the district. Salem taluk accounts for 12·5 per cent and 26·1 per cent of the population of Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe in the district as a whole respectively, while Sankari taluk accounts for 0·5 per cent and 10·0 per cent of the population of Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe in the district respectively. Out of the Scheduled Tribes population in Salem taluk, 12·5 per cent live in the hill areas of the taluk, while all the Scheduled Tribes population in Sankari taluk live in the plain areas.

1.2. The tribe-wise distribution of the population of Scheduled Tribes in Salem and Sankari taluks is shown below:

Salem		Sankari	
Malayali	11,451		
Irular	128		
Konda Reddi	128		
Adiyan	47	Konda Reddi	378
Unclassified	11	Kondakapu	54
Total	11,765	Total	432

1.3. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe in Salem and Sankari taluks is shown below:

	Salem	Sankari
Scheduled Tribe	9·5%	42·1%
Non-Scheduled Tribe	40·0%	23·2%

The percentage of literacy in Sankari taluk (42·1 per cent) among members of Scheduled Tribes is the highest among the various taluks in Salem district; but, it is to be remembered that the total population of Scheduled Tribes in this taluk is only 432. The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Tribes in Salem taluk (9·5 per cent) is lower than that for the district as a whole, which is 10·16 per cent.

1.4. The important characteristics of the sample households in Salem and Sankari taluks are analysed in this Chapter.

2. Demographic

2.1. The size of the sample households in Salem and Sankari taluks is 72 (69 in Salem taluk and 3 in Sankari taluk), which is 3 per cent of the total households (2,391).

2.2. As for the sex composition of the heads of the sample households, it is found that the heads of 66 (91·7 per cent) households are males and those of the remaining 6 households are females.

2.3. All the 72 households in the sample are Hindu households.

2.4. As for the marital status of the respondents, it is found that 1 (1·4 per cent) is unmarried, 60 (83·3 per cent) are married and are living with spouse and 11 (15·3 per cent) were married but are widowed or separated.

2.5. The age group of the heads of the sample households s shown below:

20 years of age or below	1	1·4%
Between 21 and 30 years	11	15·3%
Between 31 and 40 years	24	33·3%
Between 41 and 50 years	20	27·8%
Between 51 and 60 years	10	13·9%
61 years or over	6	8·3%
Total	72	100·0

It is found that 76·4 per cent (55 out of 72) are in the prime of life, between 21 and 50 years of age, and 15.3 per cent (11 out of 72) are between 21 and 30 years of age.

2.6. As for the size of the households sample it is found that 47·2 per cent (34 out of 72) households have 5 members or less, while the remaining 38 households have 6 to 10 members. There is no household having 11 or more members.

2.7. The size of the sample households by occupational classification is shown in the following Table:

Table 1. Occupational Classification By Size of Households

Occupation	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	Total
Agricultural labourer	21 63·6 (61·8)	12 36·4 (31·6)	33 (45·8)
Farmer	12 31·6 (35·3)	26 68·3 (68·4)	38 (52·8)
Salaried employment	1 100·0 (2·9)	—	1 (1·4)
Total	34 47·2	38 52·8	72 (100·0)

It is seen that while there is no household with 11 members or more 52·8 per cent (38 out of 72) households have 6 to 10 members, and it is also seen that 68·4 per cent (26 out of 38) farmer households have 6 to 10 members.

2.8. The size of the sample households among the different income groups is shown in the Table below:

Table 2. **Income Groups By Size of Households**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	Total
Below 100/-	12 75·0 (35·4)	4 25·0 (10·5)	16 (22·2)
100/- to 199/-	19 61·3 (55·9)	12 38·7 (31·6)	31 (43·1)
200/- to 299/-	1 9·1 (2·9)	10 90·9 (26·3)	11 (15·2)
300/- to 399/-	1 14·3 (2·9)	6 85·7 (15·8)	7 (9·7)
400/- to 499/-	1 25·0 (2·9)	3 75·0 (7·9)	4 (5·6)
500/- or more	—	3 100·0 (7·9)	3 (4·2)
Total	34 47·2	38 52·8	72 (100·0)

It is seen that among the 38 households with 6 to10 members, 42·1 per cent (16) are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-.

3. Occupational and Economic

3.1. The occupational classification of the sample households is shown below:

Agricultural labourer		33	45·8%
Farmer		38	52·8%
Salaried employment		1	1·4%
	Total	72	100·0

It is seen that 98·6 per cent (71 out of 72) are engaged in agri-cutural activities:

3.2. As for the average monthly income of the sample house-holds in the different occupational groups, it is found that 87·9 per cent (29 out of 33) of the agricultural labourer households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-. On the whole, 65·3 percent (47 out of 72) households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, as may be seen in the following Table 3.

Table 3. **Occupation by In come** (Income in Rupees)

Occupation	Below 100/-	100/- to 199/-	200/- to 299/-	300/- to 399/-	400/- to 499/-	500/- or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	10 30·3 (62·5)	19 57·6 (61·3)	3 9·1 (27·3)	1 3·0 (14·3)	—	—	33 (45·8)
Farmer	6 15·8 (37·5)	11 28·9 (35·5)	8 21·1 (72·7)	6 15·8 (85·7)	4 10·5 (100·0)	3 7·9 (100·0)	38 (52·8)
Salaried employment	—	1 100·0 (3·2)	—	—	—	—	1 (1·4)
Total	16 22·2	31 43·1	11 15·3	7 9·6	4 5·6	3 4·2	72 (100·0)

3.3 The indebtedness of the sample households in the different occupational groups is shown in the Table below:

Table 4. **Occupation by Debt** (In Rupees)

Occupation	1000/- or below	1001/- to 2000/-	2001/- to 3000/-	3001/- to 4000/-	4001/- to 5000/-	5001/- or more	No debt	Total
Agricultural labourer	17 51·5 (81·0)	1 3·0 (9·1)	2 6·1 (66·7)	—	1 3·0 (33·3)	2 6·1 (10·5)	10 30·3 (76·9)	33 (45·8)
Farmer	3 7·9 (14·3)	10 26·3 (90·9)	1 2·6 (33·3)	2 5·3 (100·0)	2 5·3 (66·7)	17 44·7 (89·5)	3 7·9 (23·1)	38 (52·8)
Salaried employment	1 100·0 (4·7)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (1·4)
Total	21 29·1	11 15·3	3 4·2	2 2·8	3 4·2	19 26·3	13 18·1	72 (100·0)

It is seen that only 18·1 per cent (13 out of 72) are free from debt. While 10 of the 33 agricultural labourer households are free from debt, it is seen that 3 of these households are indebted to more than Rs. 4,001/-. It is also seen that 19 of the 38 farmer households are indebted to more than Rs. 4,001/-.

3.4. The extent of indebtedness of the different income groups is shown below

Table 5. **Household Income by Debt (In Rupees)**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1000/- or below	1001/- to 2000/-	2001/- to 3000/-	3001/- to 4000/-	4001/- to 5000/-	5001/- or more	No debt	Total
Below 100/-	6 37·4 (28·6)	4 25·0 (36·4)	—	—	1 6·3 (33·3)	—	5 31·3 (38·5)	16 (22·2)
100/- to 199/-	12 38·7 (57·1)	5 16·1 (45·4)	2 6·5 (66·7)	2 6·5 (100·0)	1 3·2 (33·3)	4 12·9 (21·1)	5 16·1 (38·5)	31 (43·1)
200/- to 299/-	2 18·2 (9·5)	2 18·2 (18·2)	—	—	1 9·0 (33·3)	4 36·4 (21·1)	2 18·2 (15·3)	11 (15·2)
300/- to 399/-	1 14·3 (4·8)	—	—	—	—	6 85·7 (31·5)	—	7 (9·7)
400/- to 499/-	—	—	1 25·0 (33·3)	—	—	3 75·0 (15·8)	—	4 (5·6)
500/- or more	—	—	—	—	—	2 66·7 (10·5)	1 33·3 (7·7)	3 (4·2)
Total	21 29·2	11 15·3	3 4·1	2 2·8	3 4·1	19 26·4	13 18·1	72 (100·0)

It is seen that 21·3 per cent (10 out of 47) households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- are free from debt; and 38·3 per cent (18 out of 47) of the households in the same income group are indebted to Rs. 1,000/- or less. On the whole, 26·4 per cent (19 out of 72) households are indebted to more than Rs. 5,001/-, and out of them 4 households are with average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-.

3.5. The sources of borrowing for the different occupational groups are shown in the Table below:

Table 6. **Occupation By Sources of Borrowing**

Occupation	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Bank	Two Sources	Three Sources	Four Sources	Total
Agricultural labourer	5 21·6 (45·5)	16 69·6 (48·5)	—	2 8·7 (33·3)	—	—	23 (39·0)
Farmer	6 17·1 (54·5)	16 45·7 (48·5)	1 2·9 (100·0)	4 11·4 (66·7)	7 20·0 (100·0)	1 2·9 (100·0)	35 (59·3)
Salaried employment	—	1 100·0 (3·0)	—	—	—	—	1 (1·7)
Total	11 18·6	33 55·9	1 1·7	6 10·2	7 11·9	1 1·7	59 (100·0)

It is seen that not a single household has borrowed from the Government, and only one household has borrowed from Bank. The two main sources for borrowing are moneylenders and relatives/friends. Out of the 33 households which have borrowed from moneylenders, 48·5 per cent (16 out of 33) are agricultural labourer households. Only 1 farmer household has borrowed from a Bank, and all the 35 indebted farmer households seem to have borrowed from all possible sources.

3.6. The sources of borrowing for the different income groups in the sample are shown in the following Table:

able 7. **Income Groups By Sources of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Bank	Two Sources	Three Sources	Four Sources	Total
Below/- 100/-	2 18·2 (18·2)	7 63·6 (21·2)	—	1 9·1 (16·7)	1 9·1 (14·3)	—	11 (18·6)
100/- to 199/-	8 30·7 (72·7)	14 53·9 (42·4)	—	2 7·7 (33·2)	2 7·7 (28·6)	—	26 (44·0)
200/- to 299/-	1 11·1 (9·1)	6 66·7 (18·2)	1 11·1 (100·0)	—	1 11·1 (14·3)	—	9 (15·3)
300/- to 399/-	—	3 42·8 (9·1)	—	1 14·3 (16·7)	2 28·6 (28·6)	1 14·3 (100·0)	7 (11·9)
400/- to 499/-	—	2 50·0 (6·1)	—	1 25·0 (16·7)	1 25·0 (14·2)	—	4 (6·8)
500/- or more	—	1 50·0 (3·0)	—	1 50·0 (16·7)	—	—	2 (3·4)
Total	11 18·6	33 55·9	1 1·7	6 10·2	7 11·9	1 1·7	59 (100·0)

It is seen that there is no household with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-which has borrowed from any Bank or from the Government, and in that income group of below Rs. 200/-, 63·6 per cent (21 out of 33) households have borrowed from moneylenders.

3.7. As for the purpose of borrowing by the different occupational groups, it is found that, on the whole 45·8 percent (27 out of 59) have borrowed for family maintenance, and out of the 23 agricultural labourer households, 82·7 percent (19) have borrowed for family maintenance and 8·7 percent (2) have borrowed to meet marriage expenditure. Among the 35 farmer households, 60·0 per cent (21) have borrowed for agricultural purposes as may be seen in the following Table.

Table 8. **Occupation By Purposes of Borrowing**

Occupation	Family maintenance	Construct house	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Marriage expenditure	Total
Agricultural labourer	19 82·7 (70·4)	—	1 4·3 (4·5)	1 4·3 (50·0)	2 8·7 (50·0)	23 (39·0)
Farmer	7 20·0 (25·9)	4 11·4 (100·0)	21 60·0 (95·5)	1 2·9 (50·0)	2 5·7 (50·0)	35 (59·3)
Salaried employment	1 100·0 (3·7)	—	—	—	—	1 (1·7)
Total	27 45·8	4 6·8	22 37·2	2 3·4	4 6·8	59 (100·0)

3.8. The purposes of borrowing by the different income groups are shown in the Table below:

Table 9. **Income Groups By Purposes of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Family mainte-nance	Construct house	Agricul-tural purposes	Buy land	Marriage expendi-ture	Total
Below 100/-	8 72·7 (29·6)	—	3 21·3 (13·7)	—	—	11 (18·6)
100/- to 199/-	15 57·7 (55·6)	2 7·7 (50·0)	5 19·3 (22·0)	1 3·8 (50·0)	3 11·5 (75·0	26 (44·0)
200/- to 299/-	2 22·2 (7·4)	2 22·2 (50·0)	3 33·4 (13·7)	1 11·1 (50·0)	1 11·1 (25·0)	9 (15.3)
300/- to 399/-	2 28·6 (7·4)	—	5 71·4 (22·6)	—	—	7 (11·9)
400/- to 499/-	—	—	4 100·0 (18·2)	—	—	4 (6·8)
500/- or more	—	—	2 100·0 (9·1)	—	—	2 (3·4)
Total	27 45·8	4 6·8	22 37·2	2 3·4	4 6·8	59 (100·0)

It is seen that among the 27 who have borrowed for family maintenance, 85·2 per cent (23) households are with average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- and in the same income group 3 households have borrowed for marriage expenditure.

4. Housing and Medical

4.1. Out of the 72 sample households, 70 live in their own huts and out of the 70 living in their own huts, only 55 (78·6 per cent) have 'patta' for the land on which they have constructed their huts.

4.2. There is acute water scarcity in the Jarugumalai area in Salem taluk.

4.3. The distance of the nearest Primary Health Centre/ Clinic, according to the respondents is shown below:

Less than ½ a mile	Nil	Nil
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	Nil	Nil
Between 11 mile and 1½ miles	1	1·4%
Between 1½ miles and 2 miles	3	4·2%
Over 2 miles	67	93·0%
No response	1	1·4%
Total	72	100·0

It is found that among the 55 sample households with children 52 (94·5 per cent) take the children, when they get sick, to the Clinic, and 3 do not. The common diseases, according to the respondents, are common cold and fever, dysentery, chicken pox, and jaundice among children and malaria, tuberculosis and to some extent leprosy among adults.

5. Literacy and Education

5.1. Out of the 72 sample households, the heads of 16 (22·2 per cent) households are literates. The educational level of the 16 literates is shown below:

Primary school	12	75·0%
Middle school	3	18·6%
High school	1	6·4%
Total	16	100·0

5.2. The distance of the nearest school, according to the respondents, is shown below:

	Primary School		High School	
Less than ½ mile	64	88·9%	Nil	Nil
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	2	2·8%	Nil	Nil
Between 1 mile and 1½ miles	Nil	Nil	1	1·4%
Between 1½ miles and 2 miles	—	—	5	6·9%
Over 2 miles	Nil	Nil	63	87·5%
No response	6	8·3%	3	4·2%
Total	72	100·0	72	100·0

5.3. As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes, 18 (25·0 per cent) answered in the affirmative, 46 (63·9 per cent) in the negative and 8 (11·1 per cent) did not respond.

6. Social

6.1. As for the tribe-wise distribution of the sample households, it is found that 59 (82·0 per cent) are Malayali households and 13 (18·0 per cent) are Konda Reddi households.

6.2. **Inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of different Scheduled Tribes**

	Inter-dining		Inter-marriage	
Yes	1	1·4%	1	1·4%
No	21	29·2%	54	75·0%
Don't know	49	68·0%	16	22·2%
No response	1	1·4%	1	1·4%
Total	72	100·0	72	100·0

6.3. Inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes

	Inter-dining		Inter-marriage	
Yes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
No	71	98·6%	71	98·6%
No response	1	1·4%	1	1·4%
Total	72	100·0	72	100·0

6.4. Inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of Scheduled Tribes and 'Backward Classes'

	Inter-dining		Inter-marriage	
Yes	71	98·6%	Nil	Nil
No	Nil	Nil	71	98·6%
No response	1	1·4%	1	1·4%
Total	72	100·0	72	100·0

6.5. As for social disabilities, 8 (11·1 per cent) answered in the affirmative, 25 (34·7 per cent) answered in the negative 38 (52·8 per cent) did not know and 1 did not respond.

6.6. A son's marriage is more expensive than that of a daughter among Scheduled Tribes probably because of the custom of 'bride price' (dowry). It is found that 64·8 per cent (24 out of 37) households spent Rs. 1,000/- or below for a daughter's marriage, while all the 51 households with sons have spent more than Rs. 1,000/- and it is found that 19·6 per cent (10 out of 51) households spent more than Rs. 3,000/- for a son's marriage. The expenditure for a daughter's marriage and for a son's marriage in the different income groups is shown in Tables 10 and 11 respectively.

Table 10. **Income Groups By Expenditure for a Daughter's Marriage** (Expenditure in Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	6 75·0 (25·0)	2 25·0 (20·0)	—	—	8 (21·6)
100/- to 199/-	10 76·9 (41·7)	3 23·1 (30·0)	—	—	13 (35·1)
200/- to 299/-	5 62·5 (20·8)	3 37·5 (30·0)	—	—	8 (21·6)
300/- to 399/-	3 60·0 (12·5)	1 20·0 (10·0)	1 20·0 (50·0)	—	5 (13·5)
400/- to 499/-	—	—	1 100·0 (50·0)	—	1 (2·7)
500/- or more	—	1 50·0 (10·0)	—	1 50·0 (100·0)	2 (5·5)
Total	24 64·8	10 27·0	2 5·5	1 2.7	37 (100·0)

Table 11. **Income Groups By Expenditure for a Son's Marriage** (Expenditure in Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	—	3 37·5 (13·0)	5 62·5 (27·8)	—	8 (15·7)
100/- to 199/-	—	11 44·0 (47·8)	9 36·0 (50·0)	5 20·0 (50·0)	25 (49·0)
200/- to 299/-	—	3 50·0 (13·0)	2 33·3 (11·0)	1 16·7 (10·0)	6 (11·8)
300/- to 399/-	—	4 57·1 (17·4)	1 14·3 (5·6)	2 28·6 (20·0)	7 (13·7)
400/- to 499/-	—	1 50·0 (4·4)	1 50·0 (5·6)	—	2 (3·9)
500/- or more	—	1 33·3 (4·4)	—	2 67·7 (20·0)	3 (5·9)
Total	—	23 45·0	18 35·4	10 19·6	51 (100·0)

7. Politicization

It is found that out of the 72 respondents, 68 (94·4 per cent) voted in the last general elections, 2 did not vote and 2 were not eligible. It is also found that 10 of the 72 respondents hold elected positions like members/presidents of Panchayat Boards and Temple Trustees.

8. Others

As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the Government's interest in tribal welfare, 25 per cent (18 out of 72) answered in the affirmative, and 75 per cent (54) answered in the negative.

CHAPTER 9

YERCAUD

1. General

1.1. The area of Yercaud Sub-taluk with its 382·7 sq. kms. accounts for 4·5 per cent of the area of Salem district. This taluk accounts for 17·8 per cent and 0·5 per cent of the Salem district population of Scheduled Tribes, and Non-Scheduled Tribe population respectively, as of 1971. The entire area of this taluk is on the hill, and, consequently, the entire population lives in the hill area.

1.2. Out of the Scheduled Tribes population of 16,823 in this taluk, 16,821 belong to the Malayali Tribe and the other two are tribewise unclassified.

1.3. The percentage of literacy among the Scheduled Tribes in this taluk is 10·5 per cent as compared to that of 47·1 per cent among Non-Scheduled Tribe.

1.4. There are several big plantations in this taluk, and this is the only taluk in Salem district in which there are plantation labourers belonging to Scheduled Tribes. The important characteristics of the sample households of Yercaud Sub-taluk are analysed in this Chapter.

2. Demographic

2.1. The size of the sample for this Sub-taluk is 101, which is 3 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes households (3,365) in this taluk.

2.2. As for the sex composition of the heads of the sample households, 94 (93·1%) are males and that of the other 7 (6·9%) households are females.

2.3. All the 101 sample households are Hindu households.

2.4. As for the marital status of the heads of the sample households, 3 are unmarried, 85 (84·1%) are married and are living with spouse and 13 (12·9%) were married but are widowed or separated.

2.5. The age group of the heads of the sample households is shown below:

20 years of age or less	Nil	Nil
Between 21 and 30 years	23	22·8%
Between 31 and 40 years	35	34·6%
Between 41 and 50 years	25	24·8%
Between 51 and 60 years	9	8·9%
61 years or more	9	8·9%
Total	101	100·0

It is seen that 82·2 per cent (83) of the heads of the sample households are in the prime of life, between 21 and 50 years of age, and 22·8 per cent (23) are between 21 and 30 years of age.

2.6. The size of the sample households is shown below:

5 members or less	65	64·4%
6 to 10 members	33	32·6%
11 members or more	3	3·0%
Total	101	100·0

2.7. The size of the sample households by the occupational classification of the heads of the households may be seen in the Table below:

Table 1. **Occupational Classification by Size of Households**

Occupation	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	5 100·0 (7·7)	—	—	5 (5·0)
Plantation labourer	28 68·3 (43·1)	13 31·7 (39·4)	—	41 (40·5)
Farmer and Salaried employment	1 100·0 (1·5·)	—	—	1 (1·0)
Farmer	30 56·6 (46·2)	20 37·7 (60·6)	3 5·7 (100·0)	53 (52·5)
Any other	1 100·0 (1·5)	—	—	1 (1·0)
Total	65 64·4	33 32·6	3 3·0	101 (100·0)

It is noted that out of the 15 households having 11 members or more in the district as a whole, 3 are in this taluk. All the 5 households of agricultural labourers have 5 members or less. Out of the 41 households of plantation labourers, 13 (31·7%) have 6 to 10 members.

2.8. Looking at the size of the sample households from the angle of the average monthly income of the households, it is found that out of the 63 households with 5 members or less, 44 (67·7%) are in the income group of below Rs. 200/-, and out of the 33 households with 6 to 10 members, 11 (33·3%) households are with the average monthly income of Rs. 100/- to Rs. 199/–. All the 3 farmer households with 11 members or more are with the average monthly income of Rs. 400/– or more, as may be seen in Table 2.

Table 2. **Income Groups by Size of Households**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	5 members or less	6 to 10 members	11 members or more	Total
Below 100/-	10 100·0 (15·4)	—	—	10 (9·9)
100/- to 199/-	34 75·6 (52·3)	11 24·4 (33·3)	—	45 (44·6)
200/- to 299/-	15 50·0 (23·1)	15 50·0 (45·5)	—	30 (29·7)
300/- to 399/-	2 25·0 (3·1)	6 75·0 (18·2)	—	8 (7·8)
400/- to 499/-	—	1 33·3 (3·0)	2 67·7 (66·7)	3 (3·5)
500/- or more	4 80·0 (6·1)	—	1 20·0 (33·3)	5 (5·0)
Total	65 64·3	33 32·7	3 3·0	101 (100·0)

3. Occupational and Economic

3.1. The occupational classification of the sample households is given below :

Agricultural labourer	5	5·0%
Plantation labourer	41	40·5%
Farmer and Salaried employment	1	1·0%
Farmer	53	52·5%
Any other	1	1·0%
Total	101	100·0

It is seen that 99 per cent (100 out of 101) sample households are engaged in agricultural activities.

3.2. As for the average monthly income of the sample households in the different occupational groups, it is found that all the 5 agricultural labourer households and 75·6 per cent (31 out of 41) plantation labourer households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/- as also 34·0 per cent (18 out of 53) of the farmer households. The only 5 households with the average monthly income of Rs. 500/- or more are farmer households, as may be seen in Table 3.

Table 3. **Occupation by Income**

(In Rupees)

Occupation	Below 100/-	100/- to 199/-	200/- to 299/-	300/- to 399/-	400/- to 499/-	500/- or more	Total
Agricultural labourer	3 60·0 (30·0)	2 40·0 (4·4)	—	—	—	—	5 (5·0)
Plantation labourer	6 14.6 (60·0)	25 61·0 (55·6)	8 19·5 (26·7)	2 4·9 (25.0)	—	—	41 (40·5)
Farmer and Salaried employment	—	—	1 100·0 (3·3)	—	—	—	1 (1·0)
Farmer	—	18 34·0 (40·0)	21 39·6 (70·0)	6 11·3 (75·0)	3 5·7 (100·0)	5 9·4 (100·0)	53 (52·5)
Any other	1 (100·0) (10·0)	—	—	—	—	—	1 (1·0)
Total	10 9·9	45 44·6	30 29·6	8 7·9	3 3·0	5 5·0	101 (100·0)

3.3. The indebtedness of the sample households by occupational classification is shown in the Table below :

Table 4.

Occupation by Debt
(In Rupees)

Occupation	1000/- or below	1001/- to 2000/-	2001/- to 3000/-	3001/- to 4000/-	4001/- to 5000/-	5001/- or more	No debt	Total
Agricultural labourer	2 40·0 (5·0)	1 20·0 (4·8)	—	—	—	—	2 40·0 (8·7)	5 (5·0)
Plantation labourer	26 63·4 (65·0)	7 17·1 (33·3)	—	—	—	—	8 19·5 (34·8)	41 (40·5)
Farmer and Salaried employment	—	1 100·0 (4·8)	—	—	—	—	—	1 (1·0)
Farmer	12 22·6 (30·0)	12 22·6 (53·1)	2 3·8 (100·0)	3 5·7 (100·0)	1 1·9 (100·0)	11 20·8 (100·0)	12 22·6 (52·2)	53 (52·5)
Any other	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 100·0 (4·3)	1 (1·0)
Total	40 39·6	21 20·8	2 2·0	3 3·0	1 1·0	11 10·8	23 22·8	101 (100·0)

It is seen that only 22·8 per cent (23 out of 101) are free from debt. It is also seen that 60 per cent (3 out of 5) and 80·5 per cent (33 out of 41) agricultural and plantation labourer households respectively are indebted to Rs. 2,000/- or below. All the 11 households indebted to Rs. 5001/- or more are farmer households.

3.4. The extent of indebtedness of the different income groups among the sample households is shown in Table 5.

It is seen that out of 55 households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, 70·9 per cent (39) households are indebted to Rs. 2000/- or less. Out of the 23 households free from debt, 60·9 per cent (14) are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-

3.5. As for the sources of borrowing for the different occupational groups, it is found that 74·3 per cent (58 out of 78) households have borrowed from moneylenders and another 10·3 per cent (8 out of 78) from relatives/friends, the two main sources of borrowing for Scheduled Tribes. Only 1 farmer household has borrowed from the Government and 1 plantation labourer and 4 farmer households have borrowed from Banks. Out of the 58 households which have borrowed from money lenders, 48·3 per cent (28) are agricultural and plantation labourer households, as may be seen in Table 6.

Table 5.

Household Income by Debt
(In Rupees)

Average monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- to 4,000/-	4,001/- to 5,000/-	5,001/- or more	No debt	Total
Below 100/-	3 30·0 (7·5)	2 20·0 (9·5)	—	—	—	—	5 50.0 (21·8)	10 (9·9)
100/- to 199/-	22 48·9 (55·0)	12 26·7 (57·2)	—	—	—	2 4·4 (18·1)	9 20·0 (39·1)	45 (44·6)
200/- to 299/-	13 43·4 (32·5)	4 13·3 (19·0)	1 3·3 (50·0)	2 6·7 (66·7)	1 3·3 (100·0)	4 13·3 (36·4)	5 16·7 (21·8)	30 (29·7)
300/- to 399/-	2 25·0 (5·0)	1 12·5 (4·8)	—	1 12·5 (33·3)	—	1 12·5 (9·1)	3 37·5 (13·0)	8 (7·8)
400/- to 499/-	—	2 66·7 (9·5)	—	—	—	1 33·3 (9·1)	—	3 (3·0)
500/- or more	—	—	1 20·0 (50·0)	—	—	3 60·0 (27·3)	1 20·0 (4·3)	5 (5·0)
Total	40 39·6	21 20·7	2 2·0	3 3·0	1 1·0	11 10·9	23 22·8	101 (100·0)

Table 6. **Occupation by Sources of Borrowing**

Occupation	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Bank	Government	Two Sources	Total
Agricultural labourer	1 33·3 (12·5)	2 66·7 (3·5)	—	—	—	3 (3·8)
Plantation labourer	4 12·1 (50·0)	26 78·8 (44·8)	1 3·0 (20·0)	—	2 6·1 (33·3)	33 (42·3)
Farmer and Salaried employment	—	1 100·0 (1·7)	—	—	—	1 (1·3)
Farmer	3 7·3 (37·5)	29 70·7 (50·0)	4 9·8 (80·0)	1 2·4 (100·0)	4 9·8 (66·7)	41 (52·6)
Total	8 10·3	58 74·3	5 6·4	1 1·3	6 7·7	78 (100·0)

3.6. The sources of borrowing for the different income groups among the sample households are shown in Table 7.

It is seen that out of the 58 households which have borrowed from moneylenders, 50 per cent (29) are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, and the one farmer household which has borrowed from the Government is with the average monthly income of Rs. 500/- or more. All the 5 households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 100/- have borrowed from moneylenders, obviously because they are not able to command credit from any other source.

3.7. The purpose of borrowing by the different occupational groups among the sample households is shown in Table 8.

It is seen that 74·4 per cent (58 out of 78) have borrowed for family maintenance. Out of those who have borrowed for family maintenance, 50·3 per cent (35 out of 58) are agricultural and plantation labourer households. Again, out of 36 agricultural and plantation labourer households, 97·1 per cent (35) have borrowed for family maintenance.

3.8. The purpose of borrowing by the different income groups among the sample households is shown in Table 9.

It is noted that the 5 households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 100/- which have borrowed from money lenders have borrowed for family maintenance. Out of the 58 households which have borrowed for family maintenance, 60.5 per cent (35) households are with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-. Out of the 41 households with the average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, 85·4 per cent (35) have borrowed for family maintenance.

Table 7. **Income Groups by Sources of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Relatives/ Friends	Money lender	Bank	Government	Two Sources	Total
Below 100/-	—	5 100·0 (8·7)	—	—	—	5 (6·4)
100/- to 199/-	5 13·9 (62·5)	24 66·7 (41·3)	3 8·3 (60 0)	—	4 11·1 (66·6)	36 (46·1)
200/- to 299/-	2 8·0 (25·0)	21 84·0 (36·2)	1 4·0 (40·0)	—	1 4·0 (16·7)	25 (32·1)
300/- to 399/-	1 20·0 (42·5)	3 60·0 (5·2)	1 20·0 (40·0)	—	—	5 (6·4)
400/- to 499/-	—	3 100·0 (5·2)	—	—	—	3 (3·8)
500/- or more	—	2 50·0 (3·4)	—	1 25·0 (100·0)	1 25·0 (16·7)	4 (5·2)
Total	8 10·3	58 74·3	5 6·4	1 1·3	6 7·7	78 (100·0)

Table 8. **Occupation by Purposes of Borrowing**

Occupation	Family mainte-nance	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Marriage expenditure	No response	Total
Agricultural labourer	3 100·0 (3·4)	—	—	—	—	3 (3·8)
Plantation labourer	32 97·0 (56·9)	—	—	1 3·0 (100·0)	—	33 (42·3)
Farmer and Salaried employment	—	1 100·0 (7·1)	—	—	—	1 (1·3)
Farmer	23 56·1 (39·7)	13 31·7 (92·9)	4 9·8 (100·0)	—	1 2·4 (100·0)	41 (52·6)
Total	58 74·4	14 17·9	4 5·1	1 1·3	1 1·3	78 (100·0)

Table 9. **Income Groups by Purposes of Borrowing**

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	Family maintenance	Agricultural purpose	Buy land	Marriage expenditure	No response	Total
Below 100/-	5 100·0 (8·7)	—	—	—	—	5 (6·4)
100/- to 199/-	30 83·4 (51·8)	3 8·3 (21.4)	3 8.3 (75·0)	—	—	36 (46·1)
200/- to 299/-	18 72·0 (31·0)	6 24.0 (42.9)	—	1 4·0 (100·0)	—	25 (32·1)
300/- to 399/-	2 40·0 (3·4)	1 20.0 (7.1)	1 20·0 (25·0)	—	1 20·0 (100·0)	5 (6·4)
400/- to 499/-	1 33·3 (1·7)	2 66.7 (14.3)	—	—	—	3 (3·8)
500/- or more	2 50·0 (3·4)	2 50.0 (14.3)	—	—	—	4 (5·2)
Total	58 74·4	14 17·9	4 5·1	1 1·3	1 1·3	78 (100·0)

4. Housing and Medical

4.1. Out of the 101 sample households, 99 live in their own huts, and out of these 99, only 49 (49·5%) have 'patta' for the land on which they have put up their huts.

4.2. There is scarcity of water in several of the villages in this taluk, and it may be recalled that the entire area of this sub-taluk is on the hills, and it may also be recalled that Yercaud sub-taluk comes under one of the two Integrated Tribal Development Projects.

4.3. The distance of the nearest Primary Health Centre/Clinic according to the respondents, is shown below:

Less than ½ mile	Nil	Nil
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	11	10·9%
Between 1 mile and 1½ miles	5	5·0%
Between 1½ miles and 2 miles	Nil	Nil
Over 2 miles	85	84·1%
Total	101	100·0

All the 79 households with children, according to the respondents, take the children, when they get sick, to the Clinic. The common diseases, according to the respondents, are common cold and fever, chicken pox, dysentery, malaria, dental and skin troubles among children and malaria, typhoid, dental trouble and venereal diseases among adults.

5. Literacy and Education

5.1. Out of the 101 sample households in this taluk, the heads of 20 (19·8%) households are literates. The educational level of the 20 literates is shown below:

Primary School	13	65·0%
Middle School	5	25·0%
High School	2	10·0%
Total	20	100·0

5.2 The distance to the nearest school, according to the respondents, is shown below :

	Primary school		High school	
Less than ½ mile	92	91·1%	5	5·0%
Between ½ mile and 1 mile	6	5·9%	3	3·0%
Between 1 mile and 1½ miles	Nil	Nil	5	5·0%
Between 1½ miles and 2 miles	Nil	Nil	1	1·0%
Over 2 miles	Nil	Nil	85	84·0%
No response	3	3·0%	2	2·0%
Total	101	100·0	101	100·0

5.3. As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes, 33 (32·7%) answered in the affirmative 63, (62·3%) in the negative and 5 did not respond.

6. Social

6.1. All the 101 sample households are Malayali households.

6.2. Inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of different Tribes :

	Inter-dining		Inter-marriage	
Yes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
No	28	27·7%	76	75·2%
Don't know	73	72·3%	25	24·8%
Total	101	100·0	101	100·0

6.3. As for inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, all the 101 respondents stated that there is no inter-dining or inter-marriage between the communities.

6.4. As for inter-dining and inter-marriage between members of Scheduled Tribes and 'Backward Classes', all the 101 respondents stated that there is inter-dining but not inter-marriage.

6.5. As for social disabilities, 5 answered in the affirmative, 59 in the negative, 35 did not know and 2 did not respond.

6.6. The marriage expenditure for a son is more than that for a daughter. It is found that 69·4 per cent (43 out of 62) households spent below Rs. 1,000/- for a daughter's marriage, while only 2·8 per cent (2 out of 72) households spent less than Rs. 1,000/- for a son's marriage. While 11·1 per cent (8 out of 72) households spent more than Rs. 3,001/- for a son's marriage, not a single household spent that much for a daughter's marriage as may be seen in Tables 10 and 11:

Table 10.

Income Groups by Expenditure for a Daughter's Marriage

(Expenditure in Rupees)

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2,001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	1 100·0 (2·4)	—	—	—	1 (1·6)
100/- to 199/-	23 74·2 (52·5)	7 22·6 (38·8)	1 3·2 (100·0)	—	31 (50·0)
200/- to 299/-	14 70·0 (32·5)	6 30·0 (33·4)	—	—	20 (32·3)
300/- to 399/-	5 83·3 (11·6)	1 16·7 (5·6)	—	—	6 (9·7)
400/- to 499/-	—	3 100·0 (16·6)	—	—	3 (4·8)
500/- or more	—	1 100·0 (5·6)	—	—	1 (1·6)
Total	43 69·4	18 29·0	1 1·6	—	62 (100·0)

Income Groups By Expenditure for a Son's Marriage

(Expenditure in Rupees)

Table 11.

Monthly Income (In Rs.)	1,000/- or below	1,001/- to 2,000/-	2001/- to 3,000/-	3,001/- or more	Total
Below 100/-	—	2 40·0 (5·6)	3 60·0 (11·5)	—	5 (6·9)
100/- to 199/-	2 (6·1) (100·0)	20 60·6 (55·5)	8 24·2 (30·8)	3 9·1 (37·5)	33 (45·8)
200/- to 299/-	—	10 45·5 (27·7)	10 45·5 (38·5)	2 9·0 (25·0)	22 (30·6)
300/- to 399/-	—	1 14·3 (2·8)	5 71·4 (19·2)	1 14·3 (12·5)	7 (9·7)
400/- to 499/-	—	1 50·0 (2·8)	—	1 50·0 (12·5)	2 (2·8)
500/- or more	—	2 66·7 (5·6)	—	1 33·3 (12·5)	3 (4·2)
Total	2 2·8	36 50·0	26 36·1	8 11·1	72 (100·0)

Out of the 101 sample households, only 62 and 72 had celebrated their daughters' and sons' marriages respectively.

7. Politicization

It is found that out of the 101 sample households in this taluk, 97 voted in the last general elections, 1 did not, and 3 did not respond. It is also found that 4 respondents hold elected positions like members/presidents of Panchayat Boards and Temple trustees.

8. Others

As for the awareness on the part of the respondents about the Government's interest in tribal welfare, 32 (31·7%) and 69 (68·3%) answered in the affiirmative and negative respectively.

CHAPTER 10

CONCLUSION

In this concluding Chapter the major findings and suitable suggestions are given in four sections as follows:

1. General Findings and Suggestions.
2. Findings relating to Salem district and Suggestions
3. The Role of Governmental Bodies and Voluntary Welfare Agencies in Tribal Development and Welfare.

and

4. A Scheme for Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development.

1. General Findings and Suggestions

1.1. There is only a rather vague working description of Scheduled Tribes in Article 342 (1) of the Constitution of India. *A standard definition of Scheduled Tribes is necessary.*

1.2. The incongruity of the 'area restriction' for Scheduled Tribes (as well as for Scheduled Castes) has been sought to be abolished through the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976. *The population of Scheduled Tribes would be revised upwards when this Act is implemented. Suitable provision should be made for those who would be classified as Scheduled Tribes by virtue of the 1976 Act to get the benefits of the educational concessions and other privileges enjoyed by the other tribal communities in the State.*

1.3. If the population of the tribes of Yerukala, Yenadi and Sugali in Tiruttani taluk of North Arcot district is found to be substantial, *these three Tribes are to be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes for Tamil Nadu* (see para 3.6 of Section A in Chapter 1).

1.4. Only 28 and 33 of the 42 Scheduled Tribes in the list for Tamil Nadu were enumerated in the Census of 1961 and 1971 respectively. It is found that the population of each of

13 Tribes is very small (some of them with single digit figures), making for a total population of a meagre 127. *It is to be seriously considered whether any useful purpose is served by keeping in the list of Scheduled Tribes for Tamil Nadu the names of the Tribes which were not enumerated in the Census of 1961 and 1971 and also those Tribes with a very small population of less than 100 each.*

1.5. It is found that about 69 per cent of the population of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu (as of 1971) is concentrated in the four contiguous hill districts of Salem (94,383), North Arcot (70,727), South Arcot (33,105) including about 19,000 persons in the Kalrayan Hills in Kallakurichi taluk who would become classified as Scheduled Tribes by virtue of the 1976 Act and Dharmapuri (30,123). *It is, therefore, necessary that the efforts to improve the lot of the Scheduled Tribes should be concentrated in the four districts of the concentration of Scheduled Tribes population.* If the available resources are spread too thin over a vast area, there would be little or no impact, as has been the case during the past thirty years. *Further, it may not be correct to say that the population of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu is scattered, when 69 per cent of the tribal population is found to be concentrated in 4 of the 15 districts in Tamil Nadu.*

1.6. It is found that the percentage of literacy for Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu, as of 1971, is 9·02 as compared to 39·69 for the Non-Scheduled Tribe (for those other than Scheduled Tribes). During the period 1970–71 to 1972–73, the percentage of drop out and repetition for Scheduled Tribes in the Middle school stage was 70·3 as compared to 32·9 among Non-Scheduled Tribe pupils, while the corresponding percentages at the High school stage were 67·3 and 33·2. The Co-efficient of Equality for Scheduled Tribes pupils during 1971 was 38·42, 23·43, 26·44 and 15·91 at the Primary school, Middle school, High school and College stages of education respectively (see paras 6.1,6.4 and 6·5 in Section A of Chapter 1). *The non-realisation of the importance of education on the part of the members of Scheduled Tribes, ignorance about the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes pupils, the distance of the educational institutions more particularly in the rural and hill areas, the lack of proper atmosphere and facilities for Scheduled Tribes pupils to study at home*

and poverty are probably among the important reasons for the high rate of drop-out and repetition and the low Co-efficient of Equality in education.

1.7. It is found that the relative district population of Scheduled Tribes has not been taken into consideration in locating the residential and non-residential schools for Scheduled Tribes (see para 2.8 in Section B of Chapter 1). The grant of pre-matric scholarships for Scheduled Tribes pupils was restricted to 6 of the 15 districts in Tamil Nadu and only 1,622 pre-matric scholarships (fresh and renewal) were awarded during 1975–76 (see para 2·7 of section B in Chapter 1 and Appendix 11). Only 117 post-matric scholarships (fresh and renewal) were awarded to Scheduled Tribes pupils during 1975–76, of which 53 were awarded to Scheduled Tribes pupils in Madras (see para 2·3 of Section B in Chapter 1 and Appendix 10). *It is necessary to locate more schools, residential and non-residential, for Scheduled Tribes pupils in the areas of concentration of Scheduled Tribes population, to ensure that these schools function regularly and efficiently and to grant pre-matric scholarships to all eligible scheduled Tribes pupils in all the districts of the State and* these would improve the Co-efficient of Equality in education for Scheduled Tribes pupils and would also reduce the rate of drop–out.

1.8. The Co-efficient of Equality for skilled workers among Scheduled Tribes is very low (see para 7·2 of Section A in Chapter 1). *It is necessary to organise suitable technical training programmes for Scheduled Tribes in the areas of their concentration.*

1.9. The only two Integrated Tribal Development Projects in Yercaud and Kolli Hills in Tamil Nadu cover a tribal population of only 40,650 (13·04 per cent). *It is imperative to devise a strategy to cover a good percentage of tribal population.*

1.10. *It is imperative that the allocation of the available funds for tribal development to the various districts in the State should be according to the district-wise population of Scheduled Tribes.*

1.11. It is found that there are only four Voluntary Welfare Agencies in the State rendering very limited services to the tribal people with their very limited funds, and it is also found that three of them are functioning only in Nilgiris and Coimbatore

districts and the other in Madurai district only. *Voluntary Welfare Agencies can be a very effective instrumentality in tribal development, and consequently, it is suggested that the Government encourage through adequate funding the starting of Voluntary Welfare Agencies for tribal welfare, particularly in the areas of concentration of Scheduled Tribes population.*

1.12. The members of Scheduled Tribes do not suffer from 'untouchability' or any other social disability.

1.13. There does not seem to be any Scheduled Tribe in Tamil Nadu which can be termed as aboriginal or any Tribe which can be described as very primitive in the literal sense of the term. They are very backward.

2. Salem District—Findings and Suggestions

2.1. Salem district accounts for 30·3 per cent of the total population of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu (about 19,000 out of about 63,000 households). About 67 per cent of the tribal population of Salem district (about 13,000 households) live in the hill areas of the district. The members of the Malayali Tribe, the numerically largest tribe in Tamil Nadu, account for about 98 per cent of the tribal population in the district. *This district ranks first among the districts of tribal concentration in the State, and this fact is to be kept in mind when funds are allocated to the various districts for tribal development and welfare.*

2.2. The percentage of literacy of 10·16 among the members of Scheduled Tribes in this district is higher than that of 9·02 for the State as a whole. The literates among Scheduled Tribes in this district account for 34·12 per cent of the total tribal literates in Tamil Nadu. *This district should have more educational institutions for Scheduled Tribes, residential and non-residential, than at present, since literacy is a good base for the spread of education.*

2.3. There is not much of 'dead weight' from the point of view of ability to work since about 78 per cent of the heads of the sample households are in the prime of life, between 21 and 50 years of age. This labour force from Scheduled Tribes in this district can be well utilised for the various tribal development programmes. About 20 per cent of the heads of the sample households

are between 21 and 30 years of age. *The Co-efficient of Equality for skilled workers among Scheduled Tribes can be improved by organising suitable technical training programmes particularly of the non-formal type, for this group.*

2.4. About 99 per cent of the sample households are engaged in agricultural activities. *It would, therefore, be necessary to effect some structural changes in the occupational pattern of the tribal members.*

2.5. It was observed that the methods of cultivation adopted by Scheduled Tribes farmers are primitive and that cultivation is mostly, if not wholly, dependent on rain. *Demonstration of improved methods of cultivation, particularly in the hill areas, would certainly help the tribal farmers to get much better income from the land. Digging wells in places where water would be available for irrigational facilities would help the tribal farmers in regular cultivation.*

2.6. *Cultivable land available with the Government may be assigned to the tribal farmers holding very small bits of land and to those agricultural labourers who are particularly interested in farming.* The cultivable land available with the Government in Salem district is shown in Appendix 15.

2.7. The heads of the sample households in Jarugumalai in Salem taluk and Palamalai in Mettur taluk expressed their interest to come down and settle in the plain areas of the district if they are provided with land or any other gainful occupation. *This matter deserves prompt and serious consideration of the Government.*

2.8. The average monthly income of about 70 per cent of the sample households (in cash and in kind) is below Rs. 200 -, about 78 per cent of the households are in debt to varying extent and a little more than 57 per cent of the households are indebted upto Rs. 2,000/- or below. About 62 per cent of the indebted households have borrowed from moneylenders, and about 81 per cent have borrowed for family maintenance. Moneylenders constitute the main source of borrowing. They promptly advance loans to the tribal members at the time they most need on inadequate security or no security, they are willing to accept repayment, more often than not, in kind and they allow as much time as needed by the tribal members for repayment. Practically all the loan transactions are oral. It is, therefore, suggested that (1) *prompt, suitable and practical*

measures are undertaken by the Government to relieve from the burden of debt the tribal households indebted upto Rs. 2,000/-, particularly the households having an average monthly income of below Rs. 200/-, to provide the households in that income group the necessary facilities to start poultry with country variety birds, piggery, sheep-rearing, cattle farm, bee-keeping and small cottage industries to supplement their income from their main occupation, which, in its turn, would mitigate their need to borrow for family maintenance particularly from moneylenders and (3) to start immediately suitable financial institutions to provide promptly short-term and long-term loans to the tribal members even if they cannot provide any security at all with suitable provision to collect the loan and interest either in cash or in kind. The very fact that money lenders advance loans to tribal members with no security at all clearly shows that loans advanced to them can be collected and that loans advanced to them need not have to be written off. In short, *what is really needed is a financial institution with flexibility.*

2.9. Practically all the heads of the plantation labourer households in Yercaud sub-taluk in the sample stated that they are not getting the benefit of the increased *wage fixed by the Government. Proper implementation of the provisions of legislation or on executive orders is necessary.*

2.10. *It was learnt during the field investigation that about 15 labourers freed from bonded labour in Omalur taluk and sent to Yercaud for employment in the plantations did not actually get the employment and they consequently left Yercaud.* The fact that they lost the employment they had and that they did not get the alternate employment clearly shows the importance of drawing up realistic programmes of proper implementation and of a good 'follow-up'.

2.11. For about 91 per cent of the sample households the nearest High school is beyond 2 miles, while for 8 per cent the nearest primary school is beyond 2 miles. The distance of the nearest school is to be considered as an important reason for the high rate of drop-out among Scheduled Tribes and it may also affect the enrolment of Scheduled Tribes children in schools. It is, therefore, necessary *to open more schools, particularly Primary and Middle, for Scheduled Tribes, particularly in the rural and hill areas.*

2.12 About 69 per cent of the sample households are not aware of the educational concessions and privileges provided by the Government for Scheduled Tribes. *This wide communication gap between the Government and Scheduled Tribes should be bridged utilising the services of a Voluntary Welfare Agency.*

2.13. It is found that the huts in which the tribal families live, irrespective of their economic status, are utterly unfit for human habitation, and drinking water is not available in most of the areas. It is to be regretted that housing for the tribals has been neglected by the State Government probably because the tribals are not vocal and aggressive like the Scheduled Castes. The tribal population in the State is after all a very small one when compared to the population of Scheduled Castes, 0·75 per cent and 17·76 per cent respectively, as of 1971. It is, therefore, suggested *that suitable inexpensive dwelling units be constructed for Scheduled Tribes particularly in the hill areas, on a priority basis, utilising the materials available locally and utilising the man power among Scheduled Tribes themselves.*

2.14. Based on the sample, it is found that most of the tribal families do make use of the available medical facilities, despite the distance. It is found that most of the tribal members, young and old, contract common communicable diseases like chicken pox, malaria, whooping cough, typhoid, etc., and it is also found that the incidence of venereal disease among the adults is very high. *Well organised immunization programme should be undertaken. particularly in the hill areas and suitable provision should be made to handle the V D. cases and emergency and maternity cases. Para medical workers and midwives from among the tribal persons would be a great asset and the services of a Voluntary Welfare Agency would be extremely helpful*

2.15. The members of Scheduled Tribes, based on the sample, do not suffer from 'untouchability' or any other specific social disability. Dowry for the bride (bride price) is a common custom among the tribal people. Fines imposed on individuals for lapses by the group of elders are often beyond their means to pay necessitating their having to borrow from moneylenders. Stability of family life among the tribal families is, on the whole, poor. *The services of trained social workers of a Voluntary Welfare*

Agency for individual and group counselling would be very helpful to effect the needed attitudinal changes.

2.16. Most of the heads of the sample households are not even aware of the very existence of other Tribes. There is practically no social contact between the members of Scheduled Tribes and the members of Scheduled Castes. It is found that the tribal persons consider themselves 'superior' to the members of Scheduled Castes.

2.17. About 96 per cent of the heads of the sample households exercised their franchise in the last general elections, and about 7 per cent of the heads of the sample households hold elected positions like members/presidents of Panchayat Boards and Temple Trustees.

2.18. About 79 per cent of the sample households are not aware that the Government is particularly interested in their development and welfare. *Here again, the communication gap between the Government and Scheduled Tribes is found to be very wide and should be bridged without further delay.*

2.19. *It is found that there is no Voluntary Welfare Agency in Salem district, which accounts for 30·3 per cent of the Tamil Nadu Tribal population, rendering any kind of service to the tribal people.*

3. The Role of Governmental Bodies and Voluntary Welfare Agencies in Tribal Development and Welfare

3.1 *The respective roles of the Governmental bodies and of the Voluntary Welfare Agencies in Tribal Development and Welfare are complementary to each other.* To motivate the people, particularly isolated groups like the tribals, to accept and to make the best use of the facilities made available by the Government for their benefit is as important, if not even more important, than providing those facilities. It is common knowledge that some welfare schemes did not produce the desired results for the reason that the intended beneficiaries were either not aware of the schemes or were unable to realise the importance of those schemes. In this context the roles of the Governmental bodies and the Voluntary Welfare Agencies are listed as follows :

A. Governmental Bodies

A.1. *Proper communication facilities (roads), particularly in the hill areas, should be provided by the Government to break the isolation of* the tribal people and to enable them to get into the mainstream of society, utilising the local man power to the possible extent.

A.2. *Inexpensive dwelling units, particularly in the hill areas, should be constructed by the Government* utilising the available local material and man power with provision for lighting and drinking water.

A.3. *More schools, particularly Primary and Middle schools, for tribal pupils should be* opened and these schools are to be located in the areas of concentration of Scheduled Tribes people, particularly in the hill areas. It may be noted in this context that out of the 76 schools for the tribal pupils, residential and non-residential, in Tamil Nadu, only 17 are to be found in the four districts of concentration of Scheduled Tribes (Salem, North Arcot, South Arcot and Dharmapuri). *Pre-school/Day-care Centres for tribal children between 3 and 5 years of age should be encouraged to be opened by the Voluntary Welfare Agencies.*

A.4. *The Government should encourage the starting of Technical Training Centres by the Voluntary Welfare Agency, on a non-formal basis, in the hill areas for the tribal youth who have discontinued their studies for whatever reasons.*

A.5. *Small/Cottage industries, utilising the services of the Khadi and Village Industries Board, the Agro-Industries Corporation and the like suitable to the different localities of tribal concentration, should be started to provide alternate gainful occupation to the tribal families. Cattle farm, poultry (of the country variety), sheep-rearing, handloom and mat-weaving and the like suited to the different areas should be encouraged to be started to provide supplementary income to the tribal families, making suitable arrangements for providing the know-how and the marketing of the produce*

A.6 *A suitable institution for the supply of consumer goods to the tribal people and the marketing of their produce should be started in the different hill areas.*

A.7. *Suitable financial institutions should be started by the Government to provide the tribal people with short-term and long-term loans for consumption and production* purposes and at the times needed most by them even without the usual security requirement and to collect the loans and interest in cash and/or kind to break the dependence on moneylenders.

A.8. *Model agricultural farms in suitable hill areas should be started to* train the tribal farmers in improved methods of cultivation, and *co-operative farming may be started* in a few suitable areas for groups of landless agricultural labourers as pilot projects. *Irrigational facilities should be increased to the possible extent and the supply of the necessary inputs* in time to the tribal farmers should be ensured.

A.9. *When tribal persons are released from 'bonded labour', care should be taken to provide them with suitable gainful occupation* with a proper 'follow-up' programme.

A.10. *Suitable provision should be made to handle emergency medical and maternity cases for the tribal families in the hill areas. Paramedical workers and midwives may be trained from among the suitable tribal persons* to serve in the hill areas.

B. Voluntary Welfare Agency

B.1. *Voluntary Welfare Agencies should be the effective link between the tribal communities and the Government.*

B.2. *The Voluntary Welfare Agencies through new trained personnel should ascertain the felt-needs and their priorities* of the tribal communities in the different areas of their concentration and *communicate them to the appropriate Government authority* to enable that authority to formulate realistic programmes on that basis.

B.3. *The trained personnel of the Voluntry Welfare Agencies should help effect the neccessary attitudinal changes in the members of the tribal communities on an individual and group* basis to enable them to accept and make the best use of the various Government developmental programmes and become partners in their own betterment. They should impress on them that the various programmes are intended to enable them to help themselves and that most programmes are

to be only for a specified period of time to avoid a possible dependency pattern being developed.

B.4. *The trained personnel of the Voluntary Welfare Agencies should deal with family problems like marital discord, parent-child relationship, etc., through 'Social Casework' services, organise small Committees from among the tribal people for sanitation and personal hygiene, games and recreation, etc., organise group discussions particularly for household management and conduct adult literacy classes.*

B.5. The trained personnel of the Voluntary Welfare Agencies should do effective *liaison work between the teachers in the residential and non-residential schools for Scheduled Tribes and the parents of the school-going children,* should ensure that all the children of the school-going age are admitted in schools, should arrange with the teachers for special coaching for the children in need of it and should make sure that the children are not withdrawn from the schools without good reason.

B.6. The trained personnel of the Voluntary Agencies should do *effective liaison work between the medical and para medical workers of the Primary Health Centres/Clinics and the tribal families,* particularly in the hill areas, should ensure that sick children get the needed medical care promptly, should organise immunization programmes for children against the common communicable diseases and arrange for medical care for emergency and maternity cases.

4. A Scheme for Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development

4.1. The population of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu is relatively very small, constituting only 0·76 per cent of the State population, as of 1971. About 69 per cent of the members of Scheduled Tribes are concentrated in the four contiguous hill districts of Salem, North Arcot, South Arcot and Dharmapuri. There are no aboriginal Tribes and the Tribes in Tamil Nadu are not primitive in the strict sense of the term. Hence, it should be possible to better considerably the lot of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu within a reasonable period of time, provided the fundamental principles of community organisation for welfare are followed. The felt-needs of the tribal communities in the different areas of

their concentration and their priorities, according to them, must first be ascertained, the realistic plans and programmes must be on the basis of these priorities to ensure their willing and active co-operation and to make them feel that they are partners in their own progress, and the plans and programmes must be such that they would enable the tribal people to help themselves and stand on their own legs in course of time. In other words, the plans and programmes, however beneficial they may seem, cannot bear fruit if they are thrust on the tribal communities, or, for that matter, on any community. The plans and programmes must be such as not to create a dependency pattern. It must be made clear to them that the various special programmes would be only for a specified period of time and the personnel to implement the various programmes should have the aptitude to work with the tribal communities and without the air of condescension. The experience of the past thirty years has amply proved the need for the above.

4.2. "A scrutiny of the Five Year Plans has shown that although separate allotments are made for tribal welfare, there is a common budget head for both Harijans and Tribals. In such an arrangement, it is possible to envisage a contingency where funds earmarked for tribal welfare might be diverted to Harijan Welfare. It is for the State Government to consider whether a separate budget head should not be prescribed exclusively for tribal welfare schemes." "It was brought to the notice of the Team that the existing administrative set-up which deals with the problems of both the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes did not do justice to the Scheduled Tribes whose interests not infrequently were over-shadowed by the clamant demands of the numerically larger and politically more vocal sections of the Scheduled Castes. There seems to be some force in this complaint." (Report of the Study Team on Tribal Development Programme of the Committee on Plan Projects of the Planning Commission, pp. 5–6 and p. 10).

4.3. To repeat the passage quoted earlier: "While programmes like tribal schools, scholarships, etc., have been helpful to the beneficiaries, there have been programmes like land colonisation, which have not been able to achieve the desired results. The reasons for this are many. The tribals themselves,

for example, were not enthusiastic about certain programmes mainly because of their ignorance and traditional prejudices. Another reason has been lack of trained and right type of personnel to implement these programmes at the field level. A third reason would be that there has been no systematic monitoring of information on the implementation of these programmes at the field level and consequently there has been no system of feed back of this information from the field level to the policy making level. Yet another reason could be lack of administrative and inter-departmental co-ordination in drawing up integrated programmes and implementing them in a co-ordinated fashion." (A Sub-Plan for Tribal Development, Directorate of Harijan Welfare, Madras, pp. 167-168). Any comment on the above would be superfluous.

4.4. "The Chairman of the Committee alone will tour, if necessary. Other members of the Committee need not tour in connection with the work of the Committee." (G.O Ms. No. 842 dated 12-11-1974, Social Welfare Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, para 4).

4.5. Keeping in focus the fore-going, a scheme for tribal development and welfare to achieve tangible results within a specific period of time is outlined below :

(1) An Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development Agency for the four contiguous hill districts of Salem, North Arcot, South Arcot and Dharmapuri, the districts of concentration of Scheduled Tribes population in Tamil Nadu, with its Head-Quarters in Salem is to be set up.

(2) The Head of this Agency is to be the Commissioner for Tribal Welfare. He is to be directly responsible to the Chief Secretary of the State Government, and he is to be a relatively senior I.A.S. Officer who can enlist the co-operation of the various Departments of the State Government and who is interested in tribal development.

(3) There is to be a District Consultative Committee for each of the four districts with the Commissioner for Tribal Welfare as the Chairman. The members of the District Consultative Committee, not exceeding twenty, are to be the District Collector,

the District Officers connected with the Departments of Public Works, Agriculture, Forest, Animal Husbandry, Education, Health and Family Planning, Co-operation, Housing Board, Electricity Board, Khadi and Village Industries Board, Agro-Industries Corporation, a representative from the State Bank of India and a Nationalised Bank from the district and three tribal representatives from the different taluks on a rotation basis. The Gazetted Personal Assistant to the Commissioner for Tribal Welfare is to be the Member-Secretary to the Committee. The President or the Executive Secretary of the Voluntary Welfare Agency is to be the Welfare Consultant to the Commissioner for Tribal Welfare and is to be a member of each of the four District Consultative Committees.

(4) Each District Consultative Committee is to meet at least once in every four months, and more often, if necessary.

(5) The office of the Commissioner for Tribal Welfare is to consist of an Administrative Section and a Field Section, the latter having a small research cell to work in close co-operation with the Voluntary Welfare Agency. The staff must be persons who would have a sympathetic attitude towards the tribal people and would not consider the posting as 'punishment posting'. It would be very desirable to post some members of Scheduled Tribes already in the service of the State Government to the office of the Commissioner for Tribal Welfare.

(6) The present Integrated Tribal Development Projects in Salem and Kolli Hills are to be merged with this Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development Agency.

(7) It shall be the responsibility of the District Consultative Committees to draw up realistic time-bound programmes, suited to the different areas of tribal concentration in each district, and it shall be the responsibility of the Commissioner for Tribal Welfare to implement properly the various programmes through the concerned district officials in a well-co-ordinated manner.

(8) The Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development Agency is to function for a specific period of 5 or 6 years during which period substantial progress must be achieved in tribal development

and welfare in the four districts which account for about 70 per cent of the total tribal population in the State, and from the end of this period the District Consultative Committees are to function for a period of 5 years to look after the 'follow up' work which is essential.

(9) This Agency is to submit a detailed progress report for the year ended and the programmes to be implemented during the ensuing year to the Chief Secretary to the State Government. The Chief Secretary, at the end of the first three years of existence of this Agency, is to appoint a small Committee of three members to evaluate the progress made by this Agency and to make suggestions, as necessary, for the better functioning of this Agency.

(10) The needed funds for the proper functioning of this Agency are not expected to pose a serious problem. According to press reports, the Tamil Nadu Government has made an ad hoc grant of Rupees one crore for 1976-77 for various development schemes for the welfare of the tribals in five districts, and it is to be specifically stated that the proposed Inter-District Tribal Development Agency is to cover four of those five districts. A good portion of the funds needed for this Agency can be obtained from the Central Government by explaining the results sought to be achieved by this five-year project in tribal development in the State, and this can well turn out to be a good pilot project for the Central Government to adopt in the other States. It is to be remembered in this context that the costs of the present two Integrated Tribal Development Projects inYercaud and Kolli Hills in Salem district, which are to be merged with the proposed Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development Agency, are financed by the Central Government.

(11) The State Government is to implement the programmes for tribal development in the other 11 districts of the State which account for about 31 per cent of the total tribal population in the State. The State Government is to utilise the services of the members of Scheduled Tribes already in Government service for the tribal development programmes in these 11 districts. It may be observed in this context that there has been a growing gap between the members of Scheduled Tribes who are educated and in good

positions and the communities from which they hail, and this feature is also observed among Scheduled Castes.

4.6. A Voluntary Welfare Agency for Tribal Welfare which will bring together and/or help in the creation of voluntary agencies will be encouraged to be started to work in close co-operation with the Inter-District Tribal Welfare Agency. The Association of Schools of Social Work in India in co-operation with the Tamil Nadu Board of Continuing Education might be entrusted with this task of both helping to develop a number of tribal voluntary agencies and the setting up of the Voluntary Welfare Agency for Tribal Wefare, bringing together the few existing agencies, creating new ones and mobilising the resources of the colleges in these areas. The set-up and functions of this Agency are outlined below :

(1) The Voluntary Welfare Agency to be set up for tribal welfare is to be known as Tribal Welfare Agency with its headquarters in Salem. The programmes and activities of this Agency, during the first five years, are to be confined to the four districts of Salem, North Arcot, South Arcot and Dharmapuri, and this Agency is to work in close co-operation with the Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development Agency.

(2) The Executive Committee of this Agency is to consist of not more than twenty and not less than sixteen members drawn from the concerned four districts, and the members are to be known social workers who are particularly interested in tribal welfare. The President, the Fxecutive Secretary and the Treasurer of this Agency are to hold office for a period of five years in the first instance, as also the other members of the Executive Committee. The President or the Executive Secretary or both, shall be a well-experienced social worker and researcher with a post-graduate degree in Social Work.

(3) The President or the Executive Secretary is to be the Welfare Consultant to the Commissioner for Tribal Welfare of the proposed Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development Agency and be a member of each of the four District Consultative Committees for tribal welfare.

(4) The Tribal Welfare Agency is to appoint eleven trained and experienced social workers with post-graduate degree/diploma in Social Work and assign one Social Worker exclusively for each of the seven hill areas of Yercaud, Kolli Hills and Kalrayan Hills in Salem district, Kalrayan Hills in South Arcot district, Yelagiri and Jawadhi Hills in North Arcot district and Sitteri Hills in Dharmapuri district, and one each for the other areas of each of the four districts, and suitable arrangements must be made for the 7 Social Workers to be assigned to the 7 hill areas to reside in their respective hill areas. These trained Social Workers are to be guided and supervised by the President or the Executive Secretary of the Tribal Welfare Agency who is a well-experienced social work practitioner and researcher. The office staff of this Agency is not to exceed 5 or 6 members and there is to be a Research Officer with experience in research to conduct research studies with the help of the trained Social Workers of the Agency. The Research Officer of this Agency is to work in close contact with the research cell in the Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development Agency.

(5) The functions of the Tribal Welfare Agency as a whole and those of the trained personnel of this Agency would be the same as outlined under 'B. Voluntary Welfare Agency' in the previous section of this Chapter.

(6) The Tribal Welfare Agency, after ascertaining the needs, shall open Pre-schools/Day-care Centres in the hill areas and appoint suitable staff to run them efficiently. Similarly, this Agency is to organise technical training programmes on a non-formal basis for suitable young tribal persons in consultation and co-operation with the Inter-District Integrated Tribal Development Agency. This Agency is also to arrange for the training of para medical workers and midwives for suitable persons from among the members of Scheduled Tribes.

(7) As for the needed funds for the proper functioning of the Tribal Welfare Agency, the Government is to give a lump-sum grant of Rupees fifteen lakhs for the five-year period, and the Tribal Welfare Agency may raise funds locally to supplement this grant. While this Agency is to function independently, the

accounts of this Agency shall be open to inspection by the concerned Department of the State Government.

(8) This Agency is to submit an annual report about the progress of work together with an audited Statement of Income and Expenditure to the Chief Secretary to the State Government with a copy to the Commissioner for Tribal Welfare.

(9) If, at the expiry of the first five years of this Agency, it is found necessary that this Agency should continue to work for another period of five years for 'follow up' work, the grant from the Government to this Agency for the second five year period is to be half of the original grant of Rupees fifteen lakhs.

(10) The Tribal Welfare Agency, if it so desires, may open a branch in Coimbatore to look after the welfare of the tribals in Coimbatore, Nilgiris and Tiruchirapalli districts, and the Agency is to collect funds locally from those districts for its activities.

SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS CAN BE ACHIEVED IN TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT IN TAMIL NADU WITHIN A RELATIVELY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME IF THE APPROPRIATE STRATEGY IS ADOPTED.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1.

List of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu, as in the Presidential Order, 1956

(1) Throughout the State

1. Kadar
2. Irular

(2) Throughout the State except Kanyakumari District and Shencottah Taluk of Tirunelveli District

3. Adiyan
4. Aranadan
5. Kammara
6. Kattunayakan
7. Kondakapu
8. Konda Reddi
9. Koraga
10. Kota
11. Kudiya or Melakudi
12. Kurichchan
13. Kuruman
14. Maha Malasar
15. Malasar
16. Malayekandi
17. Mudugar or Muduvan
18. Palliyan
19. Paniyan
20. Pulayan
21. Sholaga
22. Toda

(3) In North Arcot, Salem and Tiruchirapalli Districts

23. Malayali

(4) In Coimbatore and Tirunelveli Districts except in Shencottah Taluk of Tirunelveli District

24. Kaniyan or Kanyan

(5) In Nilgiris District

25. Kurumba

(6) In Kanyakumari District and Shencottah Taluk of Triunelveli District

26. Eravallan
27. Hill Pulaya
28. Kanikaran or Kanikkar
29. Kochu Velan
30. Malakuravan
31. Malai Arayan
32. Malai Pandaram
33. Malai Vedan
34. Malayan
35. Malayarayar
36. Mannan
37. Muthuvan
38. Palleyan
39. Palliyar
40. Ulladan
41. Uraly
42. Vishavan

Appendix 2.

The Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu Enumerated in the Census of 1961 and 1971

1961	1971
1. Adiyan	1. Adiyan
2. Aranadan	2. Aranadan
3. Irular	3. Irular
4. Kadar	4. Kadar
5. Kammara	5. Kammara
6. Kanikaran or Kanikkar	6. Kanikaran or Kanikkar
7. Kattunayakan	7. Kaniyan or Kanyan
8. Kondakapu	8. Kattunayakan
9. Konda Reddi	9. Kochu Velan
10. Koraga	10. Kondakapu
11. Kota	11. Konda Reddi
12. Kudiya or Melakudi	12. Koraga
13. Kurichchan	13. Kota
14. Kurumba	14. Kurichchan
15. Kuruman	15. Kurumba
16. Malai Arayan	16. Kuruman
17. Malai Pandaram	17. Maha Malasar
18. Malai Vedan	18. Malai Pandaram
19. Malakkuravan	19. Malai Vedan
20. Malasar	20. Malakkuravan
21. Malayali	21. Malasar
22. Mudugar or Muduvan	22. Malayali
23. Palleyar	23. Malayekandi
24. Palliyan	24. Mannan
25. Paniyan	25. Mudugar or Muduvan
26. Pulayan	26. Muthuvan
27. Sholaga	27. Palleyar
28. Toda	28. Palliyan
	29. Paniyan
	30. Pulayan
	31. Sholaga
	32. Toda
	33. Uraly

(The number of Scheduled Tribes in the List for Tamil Nadu is 42.)

Appendix 3.

Copy of letter D.O. No. 3061–A/HW. VIII/77–1 dated 21-1-1977 from Social Welfare Department, Government of Tamil Nadu.

"With reference to your letter cited, I am to state that the area restriction in respect of certain communities have been removed in the list of Scheduled Tribes according to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment), Act, 1976, which has been published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary No. 151 dated 20-9-1976. The Central Government have not, however, notified the date of coming into force of the amended order. The Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs may be addressed in the matter."

Appendix 4.

Tribe-Wise Population of the Least Populous Tribes in Tamil Nadu, according to the Census of 1961, in Ascending Order

S. No.	Name of Tribe	Number of Persons
1.	Aranadan	1
2.	Kudiya or Melakudi	2
3.	Malai Vedan	2
4.	Malakkuravan	2
5.	Kondakapu	3
6.	Malai Pandaram	3
7.	Palleyan	3
8.	Kurichchan	5
9.	Koraga	6
10.	Adiyan	8
11.	Konda Reddi	8
12.	Kammara	26
13.	Malai Arayan	58
	Total population of 13 Tribes	127

Appendix 5.

District-wise Distribution of Scheduled Tribes Population with Ranking 1971.

S. No.	District	Scheduled Tribes population	S.T. population as % of State total S.T population	Rank
1.	Madras	928	0·30	14
2.	Chingleput	27,189	8·73	4
3.	Coimbatore	26,021	8·35	5
4.	Dharmapuri	30,123	9·67	3
5.	Kanyakumari	2,862	0·91	10
6.	Madurai	6,707	2·15	9
7.	Nilgiris	19,869	6·38	6
8.	NorthArcot	70,727	22·70	2
9.	Ramanathapuram	1,046	0·34	12
10.	Salem	94,383	30·30	1
11.	SouthArcot	14,105	4·53	8
12.	Thanjavur	1,124	0·33	13
13.	Tiruchirapalli including Pudukottai	14,907	4·79	7
14.	Tirunelveli	1,624	0·52	11
	State Total	3,11,515	100·00	

Source: Census of India, 1971, Vol. IX (Tamil Nadu), District Census Handbooks.

Appendix 6.

District-wise Population of the Scheduled Tribes in the Urban and Rural areas of Tamil Nadu with percentages in 1961 and 1971

		1961			1971		
S.No.	District	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
1.	Madras	1,396 (100·0)	—	1,396	928 (100·00)	—	928
2.	Chingleput	3,087 (11·73)	23,240 (88·27)	26,327	3,835 (14·07)	23,354 (85·93)	27,189
3.	Coimbatore	2,061 (10·23)	18,082 (89·77)	20,143	963 (3·70)	25,058 (96·30)	26,021
4.	Dharmapuri	...	...	...	599 (1·99)	29,524 (98·01)	30,123
5.	Kanyakumari	96 (5·51)	1,646 (94·49)	1,742	61 (2·13)	2,801 (97·87)	2,862
6.	Madurai	1,229 (22·30)	4,281 (77·70)	5,510	1,079 (16·09)	5,628 (83·91)	6,707
7.	Nilgiris	3,620 (27·96)	9,328 (72·04)	12,948	5,965 (30·02)	13,904 (69·98)	19,869

8.	North Arcot	724 (1·22)	58,580 (93·54)	59,304	1,345 (1·90)	69,382 (98·10)	70,727
9.	Ramanatha-puram	575 (72·60)	217 (37·40)	792	564 (52·56)	492 (47·44)	1,056
10.	*Salem	39 (0·04)	1,00,477 (99·96)	1,00,516	322 (0·34)	94,061 (99·66)	94,383
11.	South Arcot	874 (6·46)	12,662 (93·54)	13,536	273 (1·94)	13,832 (98·06)	14,105
12.	Thanjavur	22 (8·06)	251 (91·94)	273	303 (26·96)	721 (73·04)	1,024
13.	**Tiruchirapalli (including Pudu-kottai)	231 (2·62)	8,570 (97·38)	8,801	81 (0·54)	14,826 (99·46)	14,907
14.	Tirunelveli	374 (53·20)	329 (46·80)	703	818 (50·37)	796 (49·63)	1,614
	State Total	14,328 (5·69)	2,37,663 (94·31)	2,51,991	17,117 (5·49)	2,94,398 (94·51)	3,11,515

* Salem District was bifurcated into Salem and Dharmapuri Districts in 1964.

** Tiruchirapalli District was bifurcated into Tiruchirappalli and Pudukottai Districts after 1971.

Source: Census of India, 1961 and 1971, Vol. IX (Tamil Nadu), District Census Handbooks.

Appendix 7(a).

Number of Scheduled Tribes Literates District-wise, and as Percentages of District Tribal population and of Tribal Literates in Tamil Nadu 1971.

S. No.	District	Total tribal population	Total tribal literates	Column 4 as % of Column 3	As % of State tribal literates
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Madras	928	429	46·23	1·53
2.	Chingleput	27,189	2372	8·72	8·44
3.	Coimbatore	26,021	1918	7·37	6·82
4.	Dharmapuri	30,123	2228	7·40	7·93
5.	Kanyakumari	2862	444	15·51	1·56
6.	Madurai	6707	1090	16·25	3·86
7.	Nilgiris	19,869	3029	15·24	10·76
8.	North Arcot	70,727	3479	4·96	12·36
9.	Ramanathapuram	1056	234	22·16	0·83
10.	Salem	94,383	9589	10·16	34·12
11.	South Arcot	14,105	617	4·37	2·20
12.	Thanjavur	1124	152	13·52	0·53
13.	Tiruchirapalli	14,907	2113	14·97	7·60
14.	Tirunelveli	1614	413	25·43	1·46
	State Total	3,11,515	28107	9·02	100·00

Source: Unpublished data.

Appendix 7(b).

Number of Non-Scheduled Tribe literates, District-wise, and as Percentages of District Non-Scheduled Tribe Population and of Non-Scheduled Tribe literates in Tamil Nadu 1971

S. No.	District	Total Non-tribal population	Total Non-tribal literates	Column 4 as % of Column 3	As % of State Non-Tribal literates.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Madras	2468521	1530977	62·02	9·44
2.	Chingleput	2880410	1152764	40·02	7·10
3.	Coimbatore	4347157	1699170	39·09	10·47
4.	Dharmapuri	1647652	372225	22·59	2·29
5.	Kanyakumari	1219687	711232	58·31	4·38
6.	Madurai	3931490	1633770	41·56	10·07
7.	Nilgiris	474146	229313	48·36	1·41
8.	North Arcot	3685070	1298442	35·24	8·00
9.	Ramanatha-puram	2859151	1136395	39·75	7·00
10.	Salem	2898233	939413	32·41	5·79
11.	South Arcot	3603618	1125780	31·24	6·94
12.	Thanjavur	3839708	1522968	39·66	9·39
13.	Tiruchirapalli	3833909	1441441	37·60	8·88
14.	Tirunelveli	3198901	1434396	44·84	8·84
	State Total	40887653	16228286	39·69	100·00

Source: Unpublished data.

Appendix 8(a).

Distribution of Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe Pupils in Standards VI-VIII in Tamil Nadu, 1970-71 to 1972-73.

Standard and Year	Number of Pupils	As % of each row to the previous row	As % of Standard VI
Scheduled Tribes			
VI 1970—71	1,400	100·0	100·0
VII 1971—72	714	51·1 (49·9)	51·1 (49·9)
VIII 1972—73	417	58·5 (41·5)	29·7 (70·3)
Non-Scheduled Tribe			
VI 1970—71	5,37,386	100·0	100·0
VII 1971—72	4,36,157	81·1 (18·9)	81·1 (18·9)
VIII 1972—73	3,60,976	82·7 (17·3)	67·1 (32·9)

Note: Percentage of drop-out and repetition are shown within brackets.

Source: Madras Institute of Development Studies, Madras, Educational Problems of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Tamil Nadu, 1973, Volume I, Part II, Appendix 8 - (Mimeo)

Appendix 8(b).

Distribution of Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe Pupils in Standards IX—XI in Tamil Nadu, 1970-71 to 1972-73

Standard and Year	Number of pupils	As % of each row to the previous row	As % of Standard IX
	Scheduled Tribes		
IX 1970—71	799	100·0	100·0
X 1971—72	479	59·9 (40·1)	59·9 (40·1)
XI 1972—73	262	54·6 (45·4)	32·7 (67·3)
	Non-Scheduled Tribe		
IX 1970—71	2,85,236	100·0	100·0
X 1971—72	2,40,170	84·2 (15·8)	84·2 (15·8)
XI 1972—73	1,89,844	29·0 (71·0)	66·8 (33·2)

Note: Percentages of drop-out and repetition are shown within brackets.

Source: Madras Institute of Development Studies, Madras, Educational Problems of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Tamil Nadu, 1973, Volume, I, Part II, Appendix 9.

Appendix 9.

Distribution of Scheduled Tribes and Non-Scheduled Tribe workers according to occupational activities (Category-wise) in Tamil Nadu 1961.

		Scheduled Tribes			Non-Scheduled Tribes		
Occupational Activity		No. of persons in occupation	As percentage of state total	As percentage of S.T. population	No. of persons in occupation	As percentage of State total	As percentage of Non-S.T. population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1.	Professionals (Engineers Doctors, Teachers etc.)	552	0·23	0·13	326,692	2·15	0·98
2.	Administrators, Executives, clerks, etc.	1218	0·90	0·48	1,070,508	7·04	3·20

3.	Skilled workers	2231	1·65	0·89	2,417,503	15·89	7·23
4.	Unskilled workers	1,31,787	97·22	52·30	11,401,366	74·92	34·10
	State Total	1,35,552	100·00	53·79	15,216,069	100·00	45·51

Source : Madras Institute of Development Studies, Madras, Study of Educational Problems of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu—Profile Study, 1972, p.22.

Co-efficient of Equality:

1. Professionals ...... 12·83
2. Administrators, Executives, clerks, etc. ...... 15·10
3. Skilled workers ...... 12·24
4. Unskilled workers. ...... 153·37

Appendix 10.

District-wise Distribution of the Government of India Post-Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Tribes Pupils, 1975-76.

		No. of Applications Sanctioned			Amount Sanctioned. (In Rupees)
S. No.	District	Fresh	Renewal	Total	
1.	Madras	28	25	53	45,632
2.	Chingleput	9	Nil	9	5,039
3.	North Arcot	8	Nil	8	5,893
4.	South Arcot	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
5.	Thanjavur	1	4	5	8,770
6.	Tiruchirapalli	1	2	3	2,077
7.	Ramanatha-puram	2	Nil	2	1,421
8.	Madurai	3	4	7	6,941
9.	Tirunelveli	3	Nil	3	2,350
10.	Kanyakumari	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
11.	Salem	11	4	15	9,397
12.	Dharmapuri	1	2	3	1,691
13.	Coimbatore	8	1	9	9,967
14.	Nilgiris	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
15.	Pudukottai	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
	Total	75	42	117	99,178

Source: The Directorate of Harijan Welfare, Madras.

Appendix 11.

District-wise Distribution of the Tamil Nadu Pre-Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Tribes Pupils, 1975-76.

S. No.	District	No. of Applications Sanctioned			Amount Sanctioned (Rupees)
		Fresh	Re-newal	Total	
1.	Tiruchirapalli	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
2.	Tirunelveli	86	34	120	1,472
3.	Salem	326	274	600	9,226
4.	Dharmapuri	501	142	643	6,236
5.	Coimbatore	86	9	95	2,025
6.	Nilgiris	81	83	164	2,323
	Total	1,080	542	1,622	22,639

State Government allotment is only for six districts.
Source: The Directorate of Harijan Welfare, Madras.

Appendix 12.

District-wise Distribution of Residential and Non-Residential Schools for Scheduled Tribes Pupils in Tamil Nadu, 1975.

S. No.	District	Residential		Non-Residential		
		Elementary	Higher Elementary	High		Total
1.	Chingleput	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Coimbatore	16	2	Nil	Nil	18
3.	Kanyakumari	2	1	Nil	Nil	3
4.	Madurai	2	1	Nil	1	4
5.	North Arcot	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2

6.	Ramana thapuram	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
7.	Salem	9	1	2	Nil	12
8.	South Arcot	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	3
9.	Nilgiris	20	2	Nil	Nil	22
10.	Tiruchira-palli	10	Nil	Nil	Nil	10
11.	Tirunelveli	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
	Total	66	7	2	1	76

Source: The Directorate of Harijan Welfare, Madras.

Appendix 13.

District-wise Distribution of Government Hostels for Scheduled Tribes Pupils in Tamil Nadu, 1975

S. No.	District	High school Hostels		Other Hostels		
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
1.	North Arcot	—	—	2	—	2
2.	Chingleput	—	—	1	—	1
3.	Coimbatore	—	—	2	—	2
4.	Madurai	—	—	2	—	2
5.	Tiruchira palli	1	1	—	1	3
6.	Salem	—	1	1	1	3
7.	Kanya-kumari	—	—	—	1	1
8.	South Arcot	1	—	—	—	1
	Total	2	2	8	3	15

Source.: The Directorate of Harijan Welfare, Madras.

Appendix 14.

Summary of the Suggestions given by the Respondents to promote their Welfare

1. Proper communication and lighting facilities should be provided.

2. Schools for tribal children should be run properly and efficiently.

3. Inexpensive housing, drinking water facilities and medical care for emergency and maternity cases should be provided.

4. Short-term and long-term loans at low rates of interest for both consumption and production purposes should be provided.

5. Agricultural inputs and implements should be provided on easy credit basis.

6. Land for the landless agricultural labourers.

Yercaud Sub-taluk: Minimum wages fixed by the Government for the plantation labourers must be properly implemented.

Salem and Mettur taluks: Many of the households in Jarugumalai (Salem taluk) and Palamalai (Mettur taluk) are willing to settle down in the plain areas if gainful occupation is provided for them.

Appendix 15.

Cultivable Land Available with Government in Salem District (Taluk-wise)

	Assessed Waste Wet Land Available for Assignment		Assessed Waste Dry Land Available for Assignment	
Name of Taluk	In the Plains	On the Hills	In the Plains	On the Hills
		(In Acres)		
Salem (Ryotwari)	—	—	171·53	74·10
Attur	23·97	0·56	1305·51	141·81
Omalur	88·20	—	744·14	—
Mettur	—	—	67·60	79·53
Sankari	—	—	509·23	—
Tiruchengode	—	—	27·89	—
Namakkal (Estate)	—	—	556·12	—
Namakkal (Ryotwari)	—	—	415·97	—
Rasipuram	—	—	1027·25	122·23
Yercaud	—	—	—	275·82
Salem (Estate)	—	—	—	—
Total	112·17	0·56	4825·24	693·49

Source: District Revenue Officer, Salem.

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ERRATA

Page	Para	No. of line	For	Read
3	3.1	2	Nadu which	**Nadu within which**
4	3.2	17—18	and not considered so	**and is not to be considered to**
6	3.8	12	here is the need	**there is the need**
16	7.2	4	it was found tht	**it was found that**
17	1.2	9	ecomic	**economic**
24	3.3	1	Hills anp	**Hills and**
33	1.2	1–2	nesessary to obtain	**necessary to obtain**
34	2.3	6	memebers	**members**
35	2.4	4	by Scheduled Tribes, these 99 villgge	**by Scheduled Tribes. These 99 villages**
38	2.12	7	is given in Chapter I	**is given in one Chapter**
39	1.2	4	Malayalt	**Malayali**
39	1.2	5	per ceni	**per cent**
43	2.1	3	of the total/rural households	**total tribal rural households**

Errata—*(contd.)*

Page	Para	No. of line	For	Read
47	3.2	2	Occupational qualification	**Occupational classification**
55	3.5	3	(61, out of 433) have borrowed	**(61 out of 433) who have borrowed**
73	7	3	525 out of the 547 96%	**525 out of the 547 (96%)**
74	4	1	are engagep	**are engaged**
76	(ii)	3	gratitude to th	**gratitude to the**
85	3.5	4	It would seem that which have to the households borrow	It would seem that the households **which have to borrow**
116	line 3	first word	ess	less
138		line 3 first word	elnders	lenders
206		line 3	Insert (2) between Rs. 200/–	and 'to'
210	para B.2	first line	New	well.

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